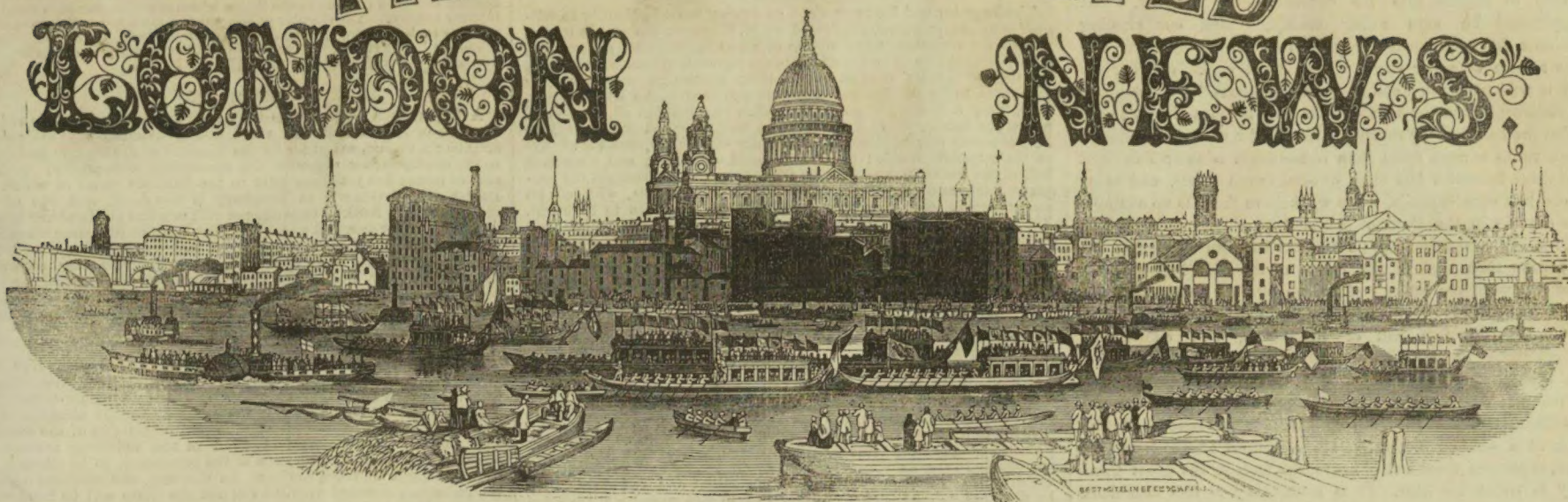


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

Stamped Edition, 6d.



No. 895.—VOL. XXXI.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1857.

[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE

UNITED STATES.—PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

No document from abroad reaches this country which is more eagerly read, and found more deeply interesting, than the annual Message of the President of the United States. The first Message of Mr. Buchanan, elected in the spring of the present year, now come to hand, has an interest even more than usual, from his having resided for a long period as Ambassador at our Court, and from a report that he was unfriendly to England. His Message furnishes no justification for the suspicion; and we are equally gratified with assurances of the most friendly disposition in the Government towards ourselves, and with the assertion, in spite of the present deplorable condition of the States, "that they abound in all the productions of agriculture and all the elements of national welfare." In the present commercial misfortune, as in commercial prosperity, the two people are inseparably allied; their interest is identical; and the "two Governments are, and," we hope with the President, "for ever must be, mutually desirous of maintaining the most friendly relations with each other."

Though the President does not place as usual the foreign relations of the States first in order, they are the most important and most interesting to foreigners, and therefore we notice first that the President says that "the relations with foreign Governments are, upon the whole, in a satisfactory condition." With England there seems no other difference than that concerning the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty and Central America; and, this treaty not having been ratified after several attempts on both sides to come to an agreement, "the wisest course was," the President says, "to commence anew." In this question there is no difficulty which two well-meaning diplomatists would not settle in a day, and it carries with it no reasonable ground for the smallest

possible national contention. With France, singularly enough, the commercial relations of the States continue to be regulated by the commercial jealousy of France. More than forty years ago the Congress passed an Act of Reciprocity, and on this Act all the commercial relations of the States with other countries are regulated except France. France and the States continue mutually to levy discriminating duties on ships and produce.

The President's just reprobation of this old-fashioned jealousy in France may be taken as an acknowledgment of his full adhesion to the principles of "a freer commercial intercourse with foreign nations," announced by the Secretary of the Treasury as his policy; though he is naturally averse from disturbing the tariff that has been only a few months in operation. We can demand nothing more of the Government or the States than the expression of a strong desire for the preservation of friendship with all foreign countries, and for the extension of free commercial intercourse. France has laid aside much of her jealousy of other nations, and it is not likely that the present ruler will long permit her growing trade with the States to be hampered by the false deductions from a worn-out theory. And every accession, however small, to the doctrines of Free Trade is a great general advantage. It will at once ensure their progress, and promote the opulence and welfare of every allied and friendly nation.

With Spain the relations of the United States are not quite at ease, but the President avows his "determination to have them speedily and amicably adjusted, if possible." With Paraguay, too, the United States are at variance. That remote Republic has fired on an American vessel and despoiled American citizens of their property, and the President "will make demands for redress in a firm and conciliatory spirit." He uses strong language in condemnation of those lawless, filibustering expeditions which have

been fitted out in the States against some of the countries of Central America; and, the law having been found insufficient to prevent them, he recommends the Congress to take effective measures to restrain the citizens of the States from committing such outrages. Looking at the immense power now possessed by the States—their ports situated on both oceans, and their commerce extended to every sea—it may be for the whole world a subject of rejoicing that they cultivate peace and promote free trade.

It is rather in connection with these topics, in which we are all interested, than with her mere interior improvements, that we notice a recommendation to Congress in the Message to provide for the establishment of a military road to the borders of the Pacific, and the formation of a new territory, to be called Irizono. This will include a part of New Mexico, and comprise a portion of the road to the Pacific. The President contemplates chiefly purposes of defence; but such a road will contribute to people the wastes of America, and facilitate the intercourse of Europe with all the islands on the Pacific. In connection with the same topic we may notice that the President has sent a distinguished citizen as Envoy to China, to avail himself of any opportunity to effect changes in the existing treaty with China favourable to American commerce. We are engaged in a similar work, and, till the hostilities with Canton began, the Americans were to act in conjunction with France and England. Hereafter, while they preserve a neutrality in the dispute, they will cordially co-operate with us and our ally to secure just concessions to commerce from China. More we cannot wish.

From the foremost place assigned in the Message to the present deplorable condition of the States, arising from the credit convulsion which they were the first to experience, we must conclude that it occupies the chief thoughts of the President. He expresses deep regret at the sufferings and distress prevailing amongst the



PRESENTATION OF COLOURS TO THE CALCUTTA VOLUNTEER GUARDS, BY THE VISCOUNTESS CANNING.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

ILLUSTRATED
LONDON NEWS

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

The Emperor and Empress went on Friday week to Neuilly to witness some experiments, conducted by M. Carleton, the inventor of a process for rendering wood tissues of all sorts, theatrical decorations, &c., incombustible. The experiments are reported to have been entirely successful. Ladies' dresses of the most gauze-like materials were attempted to be set fire to, but would not burn. An officer's tent, containing a bed with muslin curtains, resisted the application of numerous flaming torches. A cottage, half of which was secured by M. Carleton's preparations, and the other with straw, was set on fire on the unprotected side; the flames raged with fury, and consumed half of the building, but the fire died away when it reached the prepared part, and left it altogether intact. A theatre, with all its scenery, ropes, and decorations, was attempted in vain to be burnt. Their Majesties, who remained upwards of an hour, expressed great satisfaction at what they had witnessed, and the Emperor gave 500 fr. to the workmen employed.

The Council of State met on Thursday at the Tuileries, under the Presidency of the Emperor, to discuss the proposed measure of the *assurance agricole*.

The *Moniteur* announces that the Emperor will hold a grand reception on the morning of the *jour de l'an* of the diplomatic corps and the officers of State.

On the 2nd the Emperor and Empress will receive, at nine in the evening, all the ladies of the *corps diplomatique*, and ladies who have already been presented to their Majesties. The ladies may be accompanied by their husbands, and will be in court dress.

A fog of the most intense kind suddenly enveloped Paris about six o'clock last Saturday evening. The obscurity was such that it was impossible to see ten steps in advance. On the bridges and the quays the drivers of carriages were obliged to alight and lead their horses by the head, while they kept calling out to give warning of their approach. The Place du Carrousel was almost impassable, for carriages, when on it, had the greatest difficulty to find their way out. On the bridges and other places of active circulation the police officers on duty were posted at certain distances with torches.

The French ships of war intended for China, the departure of which has been delayed for some days, were to sail from Toulon towards the close of this week. They will proceed direct to Hong-Kong with 550 troops on board. This force, it is said, will not be increased for the present, and the projected expedition to Cochin China appears to be adjourned.

The *Patrie* gives a positive contradiction to a statement that the Emperor, in consequence of representations made by England, has consented to submit the question of the exportation of negroes from Africa to the French colonies to a conference, to be held in London.

The feeling of comparative confidence which has been undoubtedly manifested in French commercial circles within the last few days is now spoken of in ecstatic terms by the French Government journals. The *Pays* alludes to it with "joy," and ascribes the impunity with which France has traversed the crisis to the "general policy of the present Government." If in France there have only been the average number of failures, while other nations have been wildly asking whether they were not "about to perish," the reason is (says the *Pays*) that "God has sent to France one of those great men who take tottering nations by the arm, and guide them in the ways of civilisation and progress."

SPAIN.

The meeting of the Cortes is postponed to the 10th January, when the Queen will open the Session in person.

M. Mayans, M. Pidal, and M. Martinez de la Rosa, are spoken of for the Presidency of the Cortes, but the Government has not made its choice. General San Miguel has manifested a desire to retire from the command of the Halberdiers, one of the highest posts of the Court, and Count de Lucena (O'Donnell) is named as likely to succeed him. Other changes at Court are also considered probable.

The *Iberia* states that among the persons who, in virtue of the recent amnesty, will return to Spain is M. Patrio Escosura, the ex-Minister.

The number of vessels which entered Spanish ports in the course of last year was 5146, and of foreign vessels 3593. The amount of quarantine dues paid was 1,448,257 reals.

On the 12th inst. there was a grand theologic-comico representation at the Palace, in honour of the Order of Charles III.

General San Miguel is stated to be writing a history of the revolution of 1854.

According to the *Epoca*, the celebrated bill which the Government proposes to present to the Cortes enacts that the chief towns of provinces and other large cities shall elect one deputy for every 50,000 of the population, and that the rest of the provinces shall be divided into districts.

The screw frigates and corvettes recently constructed in Spanish ports are stated to be equal to any vessels of the kind built by other countries.

BELGIUM.

The "Te Deum" celebrated on Wednesday week, at Brussels, in the church of Ste. Gudule, in celebration of the sixty-seventh anniversary of the King's birthday, was most numerously attended. His Majesty and the Duchess de Brabant were not present, but the Duke de Brabant and the Count de Flandre arrived early. The diplomatic body, the Ministers, the principal functionaries of the Court, the constituted bodies, and nearly all the members of the Senate and Chamber of Representatives occupied seats specially reserved for them. The whole of the grand nave was occupied with officers in handsome uniforms. The proceedings lasted about half an hour. Previously to the ceremony the King received at the palace the congratulations of all the great dignitaries of the State. In the evening the Minister of Foreign Affairs gave a grand dinner in honour of the occasion, at which the members of the diplomatic body were present. M. Verhaghen, a distinguished member of the Liberal party, has been elected President of the Legislative Chamber.

ITALY.

During some excavations lately made at a place called the Arco Traverino, about two miles from Rome, the villa of Quintus Servilius Silanus, who was Consul in 189, was discovered; and close by were found at the same time the remains of a Christian church, with an entrance into the catacombs. The number of strangers now in Rome is unusually great, the majority being Russians and Poles. The weather is exceedingly mild for the season of the year.

The news from the province of Ancona is bad. Several assassinations and acts of violence have been committed, and nineteen persons arrested upon suspicion.

The Civil Tribunal of Naples has pronounced the *Cagliari* to be a lawful prize. The Minister of Foreign Affairs has published a legal opinion in justification of this decision.

The Grand Criminal Court of Salerno have accepted the *atto di accusa* of the Procurator-General as against 287 of the prisoners of Sapri, amongst whom our countrymen, Watt and Parks, the engineers of the *Cagliari*, are found; in other words, a true bill has been found, and the demand of the public accuser has been legitimatised. The documents belonging to the case are now placed in Chancery, and will be open to the inspection of the counsel and the friends of the prisoners. This trial will be pending for a great length of time—perhaps, say some who understand the forms of the Neapolitan Courts, for several months; meantime, those who are in prison will have suffered punishment by anticipation. The gentleman who has been chosen to conduct the defence of our countrymen is Signor Lauria, who is distinguished by his high integrity and his talents. In Naples he is well known as having been one of the defenders of Settembrini and others who were compromised in the affairs of 1848; therefore, whatever can be done by individual effort will be done to secure to our countrymen a full and just consideration of their case.

PRUSSIA.

Letters from Berlin give unsatisfactory accounts of the state of the King of Prussia's health. His Majesty is not worse, but the improvement which was looked for has not taken place. His memory is gone, though now and then there are intermittent flashes which show the powerful organisation of the mind which is now laid prostrate. No hope is now entertained of his ultimate recovery; and it is expected that the Prince of Prussia, in pursuance of the article of the Constitution which provides against the emergency of the King's incapacity to reign, will have to assume the Regency, or assemble the Chambers to propose the course which he thinks should be adopted.

It being notified at Berlin that a number of young ladies would be required to form a bridal escort at the arrival of Prince Frederick William with his bride, out of 50,000 applications 200 have been chosen to figure in white muslin on her entrance into the capital.

The *Prussian Correspondence* says:—

The Ministers of the Interior and Finance have addressed a circular to

all the Governors of the districts of the kingdom, having for object to prevent the title of "Serene Highness" being given to persons who have no right to it. Serious abuses have, says the circular, taken place on this subject, and tend to remove the limits which separate the high from the inferior nobility. The circular points out the laws and ordinances which regulate such matters, and enjoins attention to them. The title of "Serene Highness" in Prussia, it says, only belongs to twenty-four families; the others having only a right to the dignity of Prince.

DENMARK.

A Copenhagen letter says:—"The First Chamber has followed the example of the Second, and voted almost unanimously the sum of 450,000 rix dollars, asked for by the Minister of Finance, to be devoted to the most pressing wants of the commercial community. A fresh sum of money has just been sent to the banking-house of which the Danish Consul-General at Hamburg is the head, and one of the directors of the Bank of Copenhagen still remains at Hamburg to take up the bills over due, and which the Bank had put into circulation after they had discounted them. On the 12th inst. a deputation of four of the principal merchants went to the Palace of Fredrichsborg, to request the King to grant, out of the reserve fund of the monarchy, a temporary loan of 4,000,000 rix dollars (nearly 12,000,000 francs) on good guarantee and on the deposit of merchandise. The King replied in a favourable sense."

RUSSIA.

An Imperial rescript, dated from Tzarskoe Selo, the 20th Nov. (old style), Dec. 2 of our calendar, has just been addressed by Alexander II. to the Military Governor of Vilno and the Governor-General of Grodno and Kovno, instituting the most important changes in the relations between the peasantry and landed proprietors of the country. The Russian Government has fixed in the following manner the mode in which the emancipation of the peasants is to be effected. It will take place at three periods. In the first, the relations between the peasants connected with the soil and the State will be fixed—that is to say, they will be admitted to possess a political existence, and their obligations to their lords will be rigorously traced out; in the second period, serfdom will be suppressed; and in the third, the payments in kind will be converted into a fixed rent, and the mode of redeeming such rent and the acquisition of free property of the peasants will be regulated.

A letter from St. Petersburg states that the Emperor has ordered that clerks in the Government service shall no longer be required to repeat their oath of allegiance on obtaining promotion, but that they shall merely take it when they first enter the service. His Majesty has also ordered that the relieving guard and opening and shutting the gates of the city shall no longer be performed with the usual ceremony, the reduced number of men at the different posts rendering such duties very onerous. Persons going in and out of the barriers are not to be stopped and interrogated as hitherto.

The Austrian journal, the *Lloyd* of Pesth, announces that the Circassians intend soliciting at the opening of the Conference of Paris the diplomatic intervention of Europe in the struggle which they are engaged in with Russia. It appears, according to that journal, that the Grand Council of the Circassians have signed an address to all the Powers which signed the Treaty of Paris, except Russia: further, that the address, which is dated from Adrianople, observes that, at the time of the Treaty concluded at the last-named city, Russia had got the Porte to cede to her various rights which Turkey affirmed she possessed over the coasts of Circassia, although she had in reality only a religious authority over that people, and could not any more accord, than Russia demand, such a cession, of which the Circassians have always refused to admit the validity. The address also, the *Lloyd* declares, states that the Circassians pray that free access to the ports on their coast shall be accorded to the vessels of every nation; and that Consuls shall be sent there to watch over the interests of their countrymen, and to aid the Circassians to arrive at a point of civilisation similar to that reached by other European States.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

The Wallachian Divan assembled again on the 11th inst., under the presidency of the Metropolitan, for the eighteenth sitting. Sir Henry Bulwer was present. The reading of the minutes of the preceding sitting led to much lively discussion, and to a more open and decided declaration of the state of parties, as indicated by the vote come to in the last Assembly, regarding the disinclination of the Divan to enter at present upon questions of internal administration. A new member was admitted (not sworn in), in the room of Prince Stirbey. The Assembly unanimously adopted the following modification of the clause in the report:—"That the Assembly, in virtue of the autonomy of the country, reserves the right of the nation to submit bases for their future constitution and electoral laws necessary therefor, after the approval of the wishes of the Roumans by the Congress of Paris."

The House then adjourned to Monday, Dec. 14. In Moldavia the Divan has shelved the discussion of the rural question, by deciding that it was impossible to enter upon it until they knew who was to have the carrying out of the measures they might recommend.

A Vienna letter says:—"There appears to be no doubt at present that a note has reached the Austrian Cabinet from the French Government in which the latter expresses its approval of the determination of the Porte to dissolve the Divans. The note is in the form of a circular, addressed to all the Powers who signed the Treaty of Paris."

UNITED STATES.

Congress was inaugurated on the 7th inst. Mr. Fitzpatrick was chosen President (pro tempore) of the Senate; and Mr. Orr, of South Carolina, Speaker of the House of Representatives. Both gentlemen are Democrats.

The President's Message was delivered on the 8th. It is exceedingly long.

The financial crisis is the chief topic of the Message. The principal cause assigned for the crisis is the over-issue of paper currency and the existence of bank credits without a metallic basis, which had given rise to excessive stock gambling, large importations, and great speculation. The remedy is left to the various States; but the President hints that the issue of bills of less denomination than twenty or fifty dollars ought to be prohibited. He also suggests that Congress should pass a bankrupt law to close any bank which shall suspend specie payments. Government, he said, although unable to prevent the recurrence of such disasters, would do something to alleviate the sufferings already caused by the crisis. All public works not at present commenced had been suspended by the President, and he hopes to find no difficulty in contracting a small loan which Government wants may require.

The foreign relations of the United States are said to be, on the whole, in a satisfactory condition.

President Buchanan expresses regret that so much time was lost in discussing the clauses of the Bulwer-Clayton Treaty. The Central American negotiations with England, he said, were progressing in a satisfactory manner, but without that dispatch which could be desired.

Relations with France and Russia are entirely on a friendly footing, but with the exception that the present oppressive commercial restrictions in France were not satisfactory.

Relations with Spain were in rather a bad state, without any advance towards solution of any of the numerous causes of complaint on the part of citizens and Government of the United States.

The President regrets that the present disposition of the Spanish Government towards the United States is not so friendly as he could wish; but he remarked that the new Minister to Madrid, now about departing, would receive special instructions to arrange affairs in an amicable manner.

Authority is asked from Congress to permit the employment of a naval and military force, if necessary, to enforce the guarantee of neutrality and protection.

The President asks for measures to stop filibustering outrages. General Walker's late escape is censured.

Some trouble is mentioned in Paraguay, and authority is asked to arrange matters.

The new Minister to China has been instructed to avoid all occasions of unnecessary collision, but to co-operate with England and France in securing those just concessions which the nations of the world have a right to expect, and which China cannot long be permitted to withhold.

The legality of the proceedings of the Kansas Constitutional Convention at Leocompton is recognised by the President. The instructions to Governor Walker were to submit the whole Constitution to the people, and the President thinks that the Leocompton programme will answer the purpose, as slavery (the only matter in dispute) will be submitted to a popular vote.

Decided measures are called for against the Mormons, and the formation of four new regiments is urged.

people, declares his sympathy with them, and, while he regrets that the Government cannot give them relief, announces it to be his duty to inquire into the causes of the disaster. "It is apparent," he says rather hastily, "that our existing misfortunes have proceeded solely from an extravagant and vicious system of paper currency and bank credit exciting the people to wild speculation and gambling in stocks." He supplies some statistics to confirm his view, but they amount simply to the fact that the banks in the several States had not treasure enough in their vaults to meet more than one-seventh of their liabilities. But of these liabilities less than one-half were notes, and more than one-half were deposits, while we believe there is no example of the deposits in the Bank of England equalling one-half of its liabilities. In proportion to its deposits its note circulation has been greater than that of the banks of the United States. In neither case were the banks endangered by their note circulation, but in both cases by their deposits. These are placed in a bank by the free will of individuals, and cannot be interfered with by the law. Government cannot, therefore, touch the chief source of the danger and the disorder; and the President would see this were he to look at the facts of the case without using the spectacles of European statesmen. But he prefers, as a sounder authority, the assertions of gentlemen in Europe, erroneous though they be, to the facts in the great community in which he lives. It is astonishing to find American statesmen yet so dependent on the knowledge of Europe as to be unable to emancipate their minds from our erroneous doctrines. Because statesmen here have subjected banking to a variety of restrictions, from an idle supposition that the promises to pay of bankers are an interference with the prerogative of coinage, the President supposes he must also interfere with their business, and subject it to peculiar restrictions and a peculiar bankrupt law. Nothing can be more unfounded; and neither in America nor in England will a safe and sound convertible note currency be established till in both it be acknowledged that the business of banking must be left, like every other business, perfectly free. So much misled, however, is Mr. Buchanan by European doctrines that he thinks it would be better to deprive the banks of the power to issue promises to pay on demand than to suffer the calamities which he erroneously attributes to free banking. The President is remarkably inconsistent in recommending free trade with France, and at the same time in recommending restrictions on banking or even the annihilation of this great branch of business at home.

PRESENTATION OF COLOURS AT CALCUTTA.

THERE was at Calcutta on the 20th of October a great gathering, which had a very imposing effect. Some 20,000 to 25,000 were present, it being a grand fête-day for the Calcutta Volunteer Guards, consisting, including artillery, cavalry, and infantry, of 900 men. Lady Canning presented the infantry with colours, and the cavalry with standards. Her Ladyship arrived on the ground on horseback at five p.m., accompanied by the Governor-General, the Commander-in-Chief, Generals Windham and Beaton, and a numerous and brilliant staff. Lady Canning's address was as follows:—

Calcutta Volunteers—I have great pleasure in presenting you these colours.

The readiness with which you came forward at a time of trouble and anxiety, and sacrificed your leisure, your ease, and the comforts of your homes, on behalf of the safety of the public, and the zeal with which you have applied yourselves to the study and discharge of your self-imposed duties, assure me that these British colours will be confided to trustworthy hands.

Take them, and remember that it behoves you to guard and defend them zealously, and by ready attention to your duties, by strict and unhesitating obedience to your commanding officers, and by cheerful submission to discipline, to raise and sustain the character of your corps, and keep unsullied the honour of your colours.

Major Turnbull, the Commandant, in the course of his reply, said—

Every encouragement has been afforded to the Volunteers by the Governor-General graciously acceding to the requisitions that have been made for their improvement. We are now favoured with an additional and lasting one, by these colours being presented by your Ladyship, which, confided to their care, the Volunteers will defend to the last, on all occasions, with true devotion and loyalty. Again I beg to repeat our thanks in the name of the Calcutta Volunteer Guards.

THE RELIEF FUND IN CALCUTTA.—The Central Committee of the Indian Relief Fund have received and published a copy of the proceedings of the Calcutta committee. The report comprises details of the receipts and disbursements at Calcutta, up to the 31st of October, and of the houses of the relief fund, together with the numbers of their inmates, and the average expense per day of each person. It also gives an account of the expenses incurred in procuring passages to England for sufferers by the mutinies, the total amount being 21,254 rupees. After publishing voluminous correspondence between the committee and the Lord Mayor of London, the report contains the statement made by the relief sub-committee to the Governor-General in an interview they had with him on the 3rd November. This document states that the districts and stations from which sufferers have already been relieved in Calcutta are as follows: Allahabad, Aizimghur, Bareilly, Banda, Benares, Behar and Chotah, Nagpore, Cawnpore, Futtighur, Futtighur, Goruckpore, Hossingabad, Jaunpore, Lahore, Lucknow, Mirzapore, Nagore, Oude, Simla, and the number thus assisted has been 590. The committee very earnestly besought pecuniary aid from the Government; and prayed that the sums forwarded to Lord Canning from England might be placed at their disposal. His Lordship stated that he considered, from the terms in which the sums of £2000 and £8000 had been remitted to him that a trust was imposed upon him, and therefore he could not unconditionally and at once undertake that all the money then in his hands, and all that should hereafter be remitted to him, should be placed at the disposal of the Calcutta committee, or of any one committee singly; but that, from what he had heard of the Calcutta committee's proposed arrangement with the other committees, he thought it probable that it would be found most expedient that the funds should be placed in their hands.

MORE REINFORCEMENTS FOR INDIA.—Orders were received on Monday at Chatham by Colonel W. H. Eden, directing the following reinforcements to proceed from Chatham on Tuesday morning, and embark at Gravesend on board the *Salamanca*, 1000 tons, for Bombay:—18th Royal Irish, 64 men of all ranks; 51st Light Infantry, 53 non-commissioned officers and men; 83rd Regiment, two rank and file; 86th Regiment, 23 men of all ranks; 98th Regiment, five men.—The steam-ship *Australasian* left Southampton on Sunday for Portsmouth, to embark troops for India. After performing this service the *Australasian* will proceed to Melbourne, to take the station between there and Suez in the conveyance of the Australian mail.

FLOGGING IN THE TWO SERVICES.—During the year 1856, as appears from a Parliamentary return recently issued, the number of seamen and boys flogged in her Majesty's navy was 1397; the total number of lashes inflicted was 44,493; the highest number given to any culprit was 50, and the lowest 1. The greatest amount of flogging appears to have taken place on board the *Royal Albert*, in which ship twenty-one seamen received 900 lashes. Another Parliamentary return, with respect to corporal punishments in the army, contrasts favourably with the navy record of flogging. Out of 138 regiments and corps only 35 have been disgraced in this way. The total number of soldiers flogged in 1856 was 64, and the number of lashes inflicted was 2751.

WRECK OF THE "COLUMBUS."—The French merchant vessel *Elizabeth*, just arrived at Havre from Cape Haytien, took on board at sea the crew of the *Columbus*, of London, which foundered in 33.25 N. lat. and 42.40 W. long. The captain of the *Elizabeth* states that on the 5th inst. he saw a vessel lying on her beam ends, and with a signal of distress flying. On running down on her he found her in a sinking state, and picked up the crew (eighteen in number), who had just left her in their boats, with nothing but a small bag of biscuits, and without any clothes but those on their backs. The vessel went down in a short time after.

A territorial government for Arizona, and construction of a railroad to the Pacific, are recommended.

Other portions of the Message possess only local importance.

The currency question was introduced into the House of Representatives by notice of a bill for the suppression of bank-notes as currency.

In the Senate, Mr. Douglas expressed his dissent from the President's views relative to Kansas, and other Democrats sided with him. The Mormons are giving more trouble to the Federal troops. Some of them in a skirmish had been taken prisoners.

The Indianapolis fugitive slave case was decided by the Judge returning the slave to his master, amidst great excitement.

CENTRAL AMERICA.

Nicaragua is in a deplorable state. The republics are quarrelling, and their dissensions will favour Walker's expedition. Much anxiety is felt as to whether the British will oppose the landing of Walker's troops. The Nicaraguan and Costa Rican forces are still opposed to each other, though no collision has yet taken place.

In Honduras and the adjoining republics the cholera is committing fearful ravages, and business is nearly at a standstill.

The Panama Railway Company has published a very arbitrary by-law, requiring that all payments connected with the line are to be made in American currency. This is extremely hard on the forwarding agents and others, inasmuch as all the American coin has been drained from the Isthmus. A public meeting condemning the measure has been held at Colon. Rumours are afloat as to the solvency of one of the largest forwarding houses on the Isthmus.

CHILI.

The news from Valparaiso is to October 31, and from Callao to November 11.

The Congress of Chili is in session, and 200,000 dollars have been voted in aid of the Southern Railroad, to enable the company to carry on the works. The project for raising a foreign loan of 7,000,000 of dollars, for continuing the works on the Valparaiso Railroad, which was pending before the Senate, has been approved. It is now intended that Government should buy up all the shares in the railroad as far as Quillota, so that the whole line may become a national enterprise.

A public-school system has also been adopted, by which the municipal authorities throughout the republic are to raise a special income-tax for the endowment of primary schools and high schools, under the superintendence of a general board, consisting of an inspector and visitors for each province. It is provided that there shall be one boys' and one girls' school for every two thousand souls of the population.

A decree permitting the importation of sheet iron duty free has been promulgated.

The capture of the *Sportsman* in the port of Santa Maria, where she was loading copper without the Chilean Government's permission, has led the French Consul and the new American Minister, Mr. Bigler, to demand satisfaction for the act.

The barque *Sarah Ann*, bound from the port of Valparaiso to the Island of Oceania with merchandise and passengers, was wrecked on one inhabited by savage cannibals, and every person on board was devoured by those monsters. We have no details of this dreadful calamity.

Much distress prevails from the high price of food, but the harvest promises to be an abundant one.

EARTHQUAKE IN NAPLES.—On the night of Thursday week a terrific earthquake ravaged a part of the kingdom of Naples, particularly the towns of Salerno, Potenza, and Nola. The buildings at Salerno are seriously damaged. In the province of Basilicata, and in the southern principalities, half the villages are destroyed, and the number of victims are estimated at several thousands. The authorities have erected wooden buildings to receive the inhabitants. Three violent shocks were felt at Naples, and the population encamped an entire day outside the walls. There was no accident to deplore there. The northern part of the kingdom has not been affected by the catastrophe.

THE SWISS FEDERAL COUNCIL has officially laid before the authorities of the Canton de Vaud the question of the cession of the Vallée des Dappes to France.

JAMAICA.—In the Legislative Assembly the address in answer to the Governor's speech was presented on the evening of the 11th ult. It was extremely conciliatory, and, whilst it offered to his Excellency the warm congratulations of the House on his appointment to the government of this island, it expressed the deep concern with which the intelligence of the rebellion and the unnatural atrocities perpetrated in her Majesty's eastern dominion had been received by the House, and an earnest hope that, under the approving influence of an Almighty power, and by the strong arm of British valour, that valuable portion of the empire might speedily be restored to obedience and tranquillity. The business of the Session has been promptly proceeded with, and a number of Government measures have been already introduced and forwarded to advanced stages.

THE COMMERCIAL CRISIS IN THE NORTH OF GERMANY.—A letter from Hamburg says:—"The commercial crisis is visibly diminishing. The great majority of the affairs which were in abeyance have been settled, and there is no reason to fear fresh catastrophes. By the exertions and influence of the great houses a larger quantity of cash has been collected in this city than has ever before been seen. The large cellars of the Bank are not roomy enough to contain all this metallic supply, and it has been found necessary to deposit the copper money in the cellars of the new Bourne." A letter from Berlin, of the 16th, says:—"Calm and firmness begin to return to the commercial community of this capital. It is thought that the worst part of the crisis is over, and that our market will not have been a very severe sufferer. The bankruptcies which have taken place have only been second and third rate houses. As to the usual business at the approach of Christmas, it goes on as if no crisis had existed."

THE TELEGRAPH FROM MALTA TO CORFU.—The *Malta Times* gives the following brief details of the laying down of the submarine cable from that island to Corfu, already announced by telegraph:—"The *Elba* took three days to complete the operation. The route taken by Mr. Newall was that of keeping as near to the coast of Italy as possible, owing to the great depth in the direct course between Malta and Corfu. Opposite Mount Etna the profundity was found to be immense. The weather was very favourable, and the submergence was effected most successfully. As soon as the telegraphic communication was completed the *Elba* fired a salute, and the crew cheered heartily. Mr. Newall and Mr. Liddell are expected to leave for Cagliari in a few days for England. Commander Watson, of her Majesty's corvette *Desperate*, gave much able assistance to Messrs. Newall in taking soundings, and performing other necessary operations."

THE GREATEST TELEGRAPHIC FEAT ever performed in England, not only as regards length of message, but as respects also rapidity and accuracy, was the transmission on Sunday from Liverpool to London of President Buchanan's Message to the United States Congress. This important document reached Liverpool by the steam-ship *Africa* at an hour too late to permit of its being sent by train, and its entire contents, making considerably over a page of closely-printed matter in the daily papers, were transmitted by the magnetic wires.

SHIPWRECK AND LOSS OF LIFE.—The screw steam-ship *Earl of Carrick*, bound from Ayr to Liverpool, on Sunday struck upon a reef of rocks off Marby Point, near Douglas, Isle of Man, and soon after became a total wreck. With the exception of two of the crew all met with a watery grave.

PREFERRMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS IN THE CHURCH.—The Rev. D. A. Williams, Rector of Merthyr, to be Chancellor and Vicar-General of the diocese of St. David's; Rev. A. O. Fitzgerald to the Prebend of Combe in Wells Cathedral; Rev. T. Falkner to be Vicar-Choral in York Cathedral; *Rectories*: The Rev. J. Buckley to Sandon; Rev. J. C. Burnett to St. Michael's, Bath; Rev. E. M. Chaplin to Chilton, Berks; Rev. E. Evans to Machynlleth, Montgomeryshire; Rev. R. C. Gazeley to Ennford; Rev. D. Gillett to Geldestone, Norfolk; Rev. M. Tierney to Wymore. *Vicarages*: The Rev. W. P. Anderson to Winsford; Rev. H. A. Daniel to Stockland-Bristol; Rev. A. Gatenby to Winstan; Rev. W. G. Gibson to North Curry; Rev. A. Goodwin to Westhall, Suffolk; Rev. T. W. Jex-Blake to Milford, Hants; Rev. S. Shepherd to Boughton Monchelsea, near Maidstone. *Incumbencies*: The Rev. G. W. Chamberlain to St. James', Cheltenham. *Chaplaincies*: The Rev. H. Alexander to her Majesty's ship *Renown*; Rev. W. A. Smith to the Bath Mineral Water Hospital. *Perpetual Curacies*: The Rev. T. Anderson to Seathwaite, Lancashire; Rev. G. K. Flindt to Queen Charlton; Rev. J. H. Moore to Vobster; Rev. F. Thompson to Haveringland, Norfolk. *Curacies*: Rev. D. M. Alexander to St. Thomas, Pendleton; Rev. R. H. Bunn to St. Paul, Tranmere, Cheshire; Rev. J. Campbell to Harbury, Worcestershire; Rev. J. Franks to Clonely, diocese of Limerick; Rev. D. Lewis to Langevni, Anglesa; Rev. L. Maunsell to Kikeedy, diocese of Limerick; Rev. A. M. Morgan to Great Milton, Oxfordshire; Rev. R. R. Rogers to Madeley, Salop; Rev. R. S. Stony to St. John, Lytham, Lancashire; Rev. W. N. Willis to St. Michael, Limerick; Rev. T. B. Wills to Mayo, diocese of Leighlin.

THE MUTINY IN INDIA.

LUCKNOW RELIEVED.

The following telegram was received at the Foreign Office on Wednesday, at 11.15. a.m., through Lord Lyons, at Malta:—

ALEXANDRIA, Dec. 10, 1857.

The *Pekin* reached Suez this morning, bringing Bombay dates to the 4th of December, 1857. Sir Colin Campbell, having reached Cawnpore on the 2nd of November, joined the force at Alumbagh on the 21st [11th?].

On the 23rd [13th?] active operations commenced, and for the next six days there was a constant series of severe and bloody struggles with the enemy.

On the 21st, their principal strongholds having been captured, the beleaguered garrison was relieved.

On the 20th the sick and wounded, ladies, and children, were sent back under an escort to Cawnpore.

The army under the Commander-in-Chief now amounts to about 22,000 men, amply sufficient to reduce Oude to entire subjection—a task which will occupy them for some months to come.

Malwa field force, under Brigadier Stuart, has relieved Nusseerabad, dispersed the Efrahiabpore [Mehidpore] and Mundesore rebels, and is now clearing Malwa of the insurgents.

The flying columns under Brigadier Showers, Colonel Cotton, and Colonel Tiddel, are scouring Rohilcund, complete success attending their operations everywhere.

Large masses of European troops are reaching India weekly, and we are [relieved?] from all alarm for our garrisons and outposts lately in much imminent peril.

The Governor-General, and the Governors of Madras and Bombay, at the [seats] of government.

The above message reached Malta by her Majesty's ship *Coquette*; next mail on the 23rd December.

LORD LYONS.

COUNTRY NEWS.

EDUCATIONAL PRIZE SCHEMES.—On Tuesday a meeting was held in the Townhall, Birmingham, to witness the distribution of prizes and certificates under a prize scheme instituted by the Educational Association. The Mayor, Mr. Ratcliff, took the chair, and the prizes were distributed by Lord Lyttelton, who delivered a very appropriate address. A report was read by Mr. J. T. Bunce, the honorary secretary, explaining that the prize scheme was intended to prolong the attendance of children at school by offering them prizes of sufficient value to tempt their parents to allow them to remain, and also by endeavouring to stamp upon education a tangible value in the labour market. The report mentioned that prize schemes are already in satisfactory operation in Yorkshire, South Wales, Warwickshire, and Worcestershire. Addresses were then delivered by the Rev. Canon Rutter, the Rev. G. S. Bull, Mr. W. L. Sargent, Mr. George Dawson, and Mr. Seymour Tremenehere, inspector of the mining districts. About two thousand children were assembled in the hall, and in the course of the proceedings they sang (accompanied by the organ) the Old Hundredth Psalm and the National Anthem.

MR. NICOLL AT FROME.—On Friday work Mr. Donald Nicoll, member for Frome, met his constituents in the Assembly Room of that borough.—Mr. Coombs in the chair. Mr. Nicoll addressed the meeting at considerable length, passing in review the various measures he had taken part in during the late Session. A resolution was carried unanimously expressing confidence in Mr. Nicoll and thanks for his past services, and especially calling his attention to the right of electors to vote by ballot.

ALFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE.—A very extraordinary meteor in the heavens was seen here, by a lady, at a quarter before eight p.m. on Wednesday, the 16th of Dec., emerging from a very dark cloud, proceeding instantaneously towards the south, appearing like a pale moon, and lighting up the heavens.

SERIOUS RAILWAY COLLISIONS.—A collision took place on the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Railway, on Friday s'night, between two passenger trains, whereby a number of persons were seriously injured. The down express from Euston-square, which runs in connection with the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Railway, reached Blitchley Junction in due time, and the train thence to Worcester and Wolverhampton reached Handborough on the Oxford line at 7.20. It then started for Moreton (twenty-one miles distant), and had got within a mile of Charlbury, when the engine broke down and the train came to a standstill. An ordinary down train leaves Handborough five minutes after the departure of the express train, and while the express was standing on the rails the ordinary train came up at full speed and dashed into it. The luggage-van and three of the express carriages were smashed. A telegraphic despatch was sent to Worcester, and as speedily as could be the passengers were attended to by surgeons from Charlbury.—An accident of a very serious nature, but fortunately unattended by loss of life, took place on Saturday last at the South Staffordshire and Stour Valley Junction, Dudley Port. The train which left Birmingham at eleven o'clock a.m. arrived at Dudley Port at twenty-five minutes after that hour, its usual period, and was promptly started on its course to Dudley, when about a hundred yards from the station it was met by a South Staffordshire coal train, which was coming up to be shunted at the moment. The engine and tender of the coal train were knocked off the line, and about twenty persons in the passenger train were more or less injured.

A BRIG DESTROYED BY FIRE.—The Sardinian brig *Porto Maurizio*, Captain Busulino, 178 tons, of and for Genoa from Newcastle, with a cargo of gas coils, suddenly took fire on Sunday morning at about two o'clock, whilst riding before two anchors in Yarmouth Roads, where she had brought up some days previously for safety. Some people belonging to the coast-guard stationed at Yarmouth, who had espied the fire from shore, pushed off, and getting on board lent their assistance in the endeavour to scuttle the vessel, slipped her chains, and ran her on shore. The fire during the first few hours remained mostly confined to the afterpart of the brig, and it was not long before the mainmast was burning over the side, together with the lower topmast and other rigging attached, all in a blaze, but without injuring a single individual. The scuttling of the brig, however, appears to have been only very superficially attended to, for at high water she floated off the ground, drifted into the mid-channel, and thence, on the last of the flood, a considerable distance to the eastward. Whilst thus abandoned she was taken in tow by several fishing-smacks, and by them put on shore off Sowley, about one mile in a westerly direction from the Black Buoy, marking Leap Bank, where she lay, one mass of flames covering fore and aft, a burning wreck, with bulwarks, stanchions, and deck destroyed, and main and foremast gone.

AN INQUEST was held on Saturday last at Lynton, North Devon, on the body of Mary Blackmore, who had been murdered on Wednesday week by a man named John Barwick, to whom she was engaged to be married. The case affords a singular instance of that phenomenon of the human mind—a violent revulsion from love to deadly hate. The deceased sends for her lover to reprove him for having been drinking and fighting. Some angry words pass on both sides, and straightway he inflicts a stab in her neck, from which she dies in a few minutes. Barwick, on being apprehended, said to the constable, "If you had not come when you did, you would not have found me alive." On searching Barwick the constable found in his pocket two knives and a razor. The large knife had a quantity of blood upon it, which was apparently fresh. After cautioning Barwick, he said to witness, "She told me that she should break off all correspondence with me that night, and that caused it." The jury returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against Barwick, and he was committed on the coroner's warrant to Devon county goal.

RIOTS AT MIDDLESBOROUGH.—A strike took place last week at Middlesborough among the men in the employ of Messrs. Bolckow and Vaughan, who were joined by several labourers out of work. On Saturday, after arming themselves with bludgeons, they assembled in the Market-place, loudly demanding bread. They then proceeded to a provision-shop, at which Messrs. Bolckow and Vaughan's men had been accustomed to expend their wages; but, after threatening the proprietor, marched towards the police-station, on their way to which they were met by a strong body of police, who cleared the streets. Later in the day the Mayor addressed a considerable number of them, promising that any necessary relief should be afforded. In the evening a detachment of the 4th Dragoons arrived from York. Four of the ring-leaders were apprehended, and brought before the magistrates on Monday, and remanded till to-day.

THE TABLES TURNED, OR THE POACHER CATCHING THE GAMEKEEPER.—On Saturday last, at the Huddersfield Guildhall, Gilbert Wilson, gamekeeper to the Earl of Dartmouth, was convicted, on the evidence of George Fitton, a confessed poacher, of having been, on the 7th December, on the ground of Henry Frederick Beaumont, Esq., in Lepton Wood, in pursuit of game. The defence was that he was discharging a signal gun to attract the attention of Mr. Beaumont's keeper, with whom he desired a conference. The faith of the bench not being great enough to believe in this ingenious statement, Wilson was fined 40s. and costs,

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

SIR GEORGE CAYLEY.

SIR GEORGE CAYLEY, sixth Baronet, of Brompton, Yorkshire, was born at Scarborough, the 27th of December, 1773, and was the only son of Sir Thomas, the fifth Baronet, by his wife, Isabella, daughter of John Seton, Esq. He succeeded his father in March, 1792. His Baronetcy was an old one, being a creation of Charles II. for services rendered to the King, his father, in the civil wars. The family of Cayley was for some centuries after the Conquest of baronial rank, and settled in Norfolk, whence they removed to Yorkshire. Sir George Cayley, the sixth Baronet, the subject of this notice, was a man of considerable eminence in the scientific world as a practical experimentalist and an ingenious mechanic. He early drew attention to the ultimate possibility of the navigation of balloons; but at the same time pointed out that the steam-engine was too heavy for the purpose. This difficulty

drew his attention to the use of air expanded by heat as a motive power; and he invented an engine for the purpose, which, though it showed many advantages, he has not lived to bring to perfection. This engine is the original of what was lately claimed by Ericsson, in America, as his. Indeed Sir George's great fertility of invention rather led him to suggest inventions to others (many of which have since come into general use) than to carry them out himself. Connected with the subject of aerial navigation, he made many interesting experiments on the flight of birds, with a view of ascertaining the mechanical force requisite for the purpose. He lived in an age of scientific discoveries, many of which he anticipated or suggested, and was a real friend to the spread of all scientific knowledge, and was one of the originators and chairmen of the Polytechnic Institution. He was the first chairman of the York Mechanics' Institute; and, sixty years ago, he originated some extensive arterial drainage works in the neighbourhood of his Yorkshire estates, on a principle then unknown in this country, and was the first to begin the drainage of fen lands on his Lincolnshire property. He was also the originator of the cottage allotment system. In early life he was an energetic Reformer, and remained through his career a staunch friend of the rights and social progress of every class. During the revolutionary war he raised and commanded a regiment of local volunteers (the Pickering, 87th Light Infantry). He was chairman of the Whig Club at York forty years ago. After the passing of the Reform Bill Sir George was returned as member for Scarborough, but at too advanced a period of life to come much before the public. He only sat for a single Parliament. In politics Sir George, though a Reformer rather than a Whig, was never a strong partisan; his most active pursuits were of a scientific character. He was always foremost in every object of practical benevolence. Sir George Cayley married, the 9th July, 1795, Sarah, only daughter of the Rev. George Walker, of Nottingham, F.R.S., and by her (who died the 8th Dec., 1854) had a large family. Two of his daughters are the wives of Baronets—viz., Lady Style and Lady Worsley. Sir George died at his seat, Brompton, on the 15th inst. He is succeeded by his only surviving son, now Sir Digby Cayley, the seventh Baronet, who is married, and has issue.

MR. DOWNING.

FRANCIS DOWNING, Esq., who died on the 18th Nov. last, at Winsor-green, near Birmingham, in his eighty-first year, was the descendant of a family of long clerical eminence in the Church of England. His father, the Rev. Harry Downing, was Vicar of Wiveliscombe, in Somersetshire, and Perpetual Curate of Kinver, Staffordshire, and his family for many generations held the advowson and living of Enville, in the same county. For more than forty years Mr. Francis Downing filled the responsible situation of mine-agent to Viscount Dudley and Ward, and afterwards to the Earl of Dudley. By both Mr. Downing was highly esteemed and treated with much friendliness. As a proof of his regard it may be mentioned that the Earl appointed him one of the trustees to the present Lord Ward. In his own neighbourhood Mr. Downing's memory is honoured for the high-minded integrity and benevolence which distinguished him.

MR. JUSTICE JACKSON, one of the Judges of the Irish Court of Common Pleas, died on Sunday. The learned Judge had been severely ill for some weeks, but on Saturday the disease under which he suffered had taken so favourable a turn that sanguine hopes were entertained of his recovery.

MALLET'S 36-INCH MORTAR.

OUR readers have, probably, read of the two monster mortars recently designed for the Government by Mr. Mallet, C.E.

The largest shell habitually used by the armies of Europe is 13 inches diameter, and weighs in flight 180 pounds: it holds 9 pounds of powder, and can be thrown at the very utmost 4700 yards horizontally, and penetrates about three feet into hard earth, and scarcely through an arch of three feet thick by its fall.

Mr. Mallet's object in designing these enormous mortars is to enable a shell of a yard in diameter, weighing about a ton and a quarter, and holding nearly 500 pounds weight of powder, to be thrown to the same, or to possibly a greater, distance. The great mine thus suddenly transferred into an enemy's works has been ascertained to penetrate into compact earth more than sixteen feet, and no arched bomb-proof or casemate exists which can resist its crashing fall; while the explosion of so large a mass of powder in the buried shell is capable of excavating a crater of about forty feet in diameter by about twenty feet in depth, and levelling buildings and works for a radius forty times greater than that of a 13-inch shell.

To project such a shell (one of which was actually thrown on the 19th October last, at Woolwich, with 70 lb. of powder to project it, upwards of a mile and a half), a mortar of corresponding magnitude, strength, and weight is required.

The actual weight of each of the 36-inch mortars is about fifty-two tons; but such a mass, or even one-half the weight, if made in one piece, it would be perfectly impossible to transport with any certainty over the best roads, and not at all over rough country; and even by sea would be difficult to ship, carry, or land.

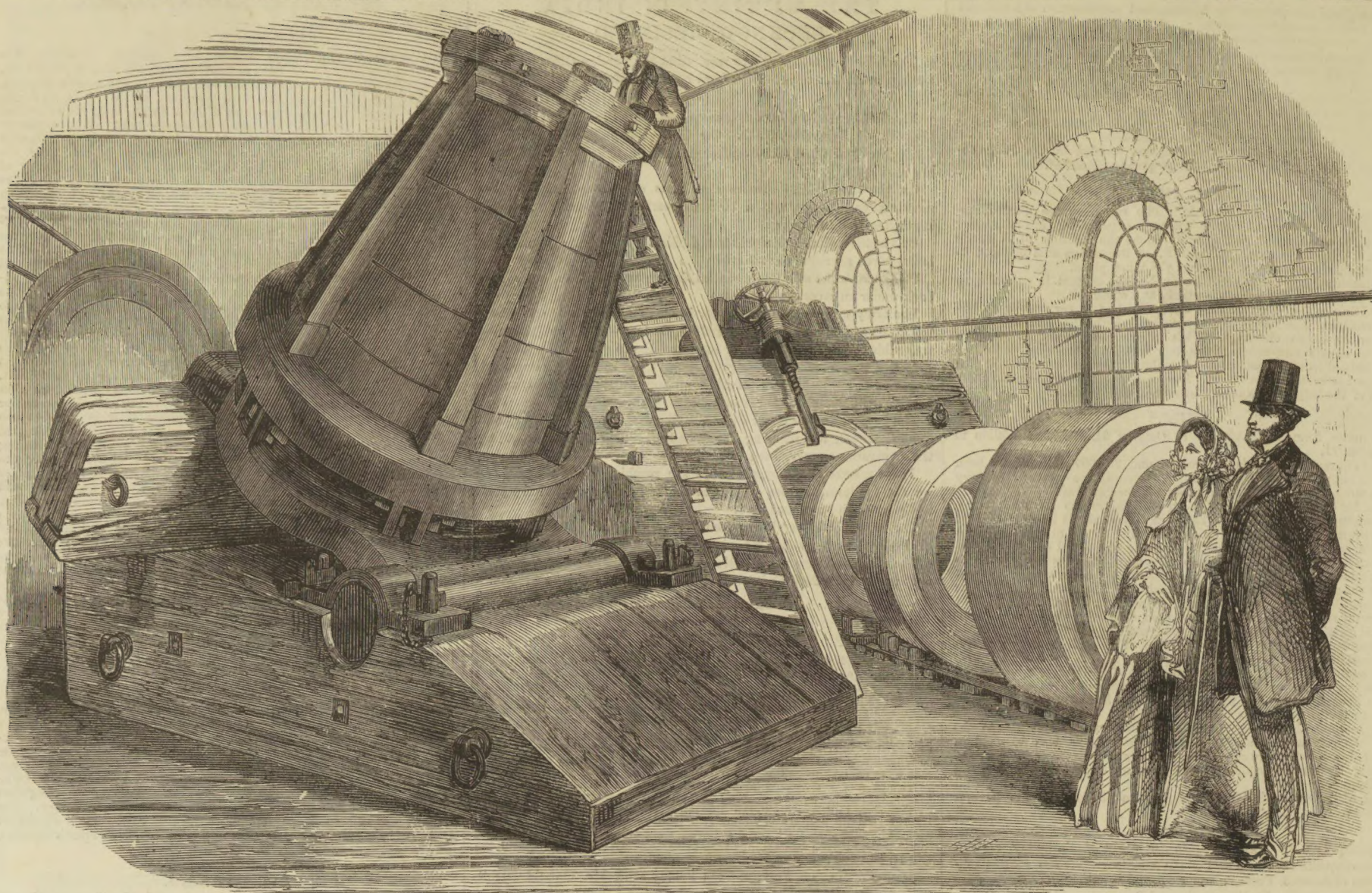
One of the peculiarities, then, of these mortars is that they are readily capable of being separated into several distinct segments or parts, the heaviest of which only weighs about as much as two 13-inch mortars, and that these segments can be easily put together in the battery, or any one damaged segment taken out and replaced on the spot with a similar one. These mortars are, with the exception of the part called the base, made wholly of wrought iron; the chase (or barrel) and chamber being formed upon a peculiar principle, by which the external and internal parts of the whole thickness of metal are strained alike, and will break, if at all, at the same time. This is not the case in any solid cast or forged mortar or gun, which bursts at the internal surface first, and then rends from that towards the outside.

These mortars—of one of which we give an elevation as seen in the shop where they were both made principally—namely, the Thames Ironworks (late C. J. Mare's), Blackwall—were commenced during the Russian war, but their completion delayed, through Mr. Mare's bankruptcy, until after the arrival of peace.

One of the mortars was tried satisfactorily at Woolwich, on the 19th October last, and again on the 18th inst., for the purpose of obtaining certain gunnery elements as to the flight of these huge shells, when, after the sixth round a slight accident occurred to a defective ring, forming part of the mortar, the exact nature of which the inventor thus states in the following letter to the *Times* of Wednesday:—

A single wrought-iron external ring of nine inches by three inches thick, forming part of the chase of one of these mortars, was discovered to be fractured, after the sixth round with 40 lb. of powder, on the 18th inst., the fracture being through an unsound welding equal in area to about one-half the ring.

In no other respect is there anything wrong with either mortar, and this trifling accident will not occupy a week to repair. The select committee decided on the moment that, if firing at an enemy, they would have continued, as the mortar is not in any way disabled; but there being no object in running the possibility of risk to a valuable weapon for mere experiment, they resolved to cease firing the three remaining rounds intended for that day's trials; and, however personally desirous to have continued, I quite concurred in the good sense of that determination.



MALLETT'S THREE-FOOT MORTAR.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

THE NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICES. DESIGNS FOR THE WAR AND FOREIGN OFFICES.

THE object sought by the architect of this design (Mr. Dwyer, of Great Marlborough-street) was to give a national character to the edifice, embodying in the details the attributes of each office. To preserve an official business character of structure, domes and towers have been avoided; but, in order to realise the important purposes of the building, and to give it a dignity worthy of the empire, sculpture in accordance with the individuality of the offices has been designed: thus, for the War Office the principal frieze embodies the war history of the empire, extending from the Roman invasion to the present time, whilst upon the frieze of the Foreign Office the most significant features of various countries are introduced, each subject being separated by a wreath containing a medallion upon which is inscribed the name and date of a naval victory. To avoid monotony it is suggested that each pair of capitals to the columns should form a separate study.

Equestrian statues are placed on each side of the four central entrances, those in Parliament-street being Richard Cour de Lion and Edward the Black Prince—suggested as the types of English chivalry. Statues of various eminent naval and military commanders are introduced throughout the building, together with appropriate trophies.

In the Foreign Office design the sculpture of the principal frieze illustrates the prominent national characteristics of various nations with whom we hold political communion. Thus—France, its vineyards and manufactures, the bull-fights of Spain, the sheep-shearing of Germany, the coffee of Turkey, Italy and its arts, China and its tea

growing, &c., are the bas-reliefs introduced in the drawings. The statues to be those of our eminent diplomatists.

The centre of the Foreign Office is surmounted by a group of Britannia and other figures embodying the various influences which bear upon commercial and political treaties. The bas-reliefs in this portion of the principal frieze represent important events in our diplomatic history. On each side are indicated further portions of the illustrations of the products and customs of foreign countries.

The equestrian statues on each side of the entrance are those of Alfred the Great and Henry II., as types of early administrative wisdom.

Surmounting the grand centre on each side of the structure, above the carriage-way, is designed a semi-elliptic tympanum, containing a subject which should unite the characteristics of both offices, the subject illustrated in the drawing being "Wisdom directing Peace and War."

The War and Foreign Offices have been united so as to form externally one important building, occupying the position and space in accordance with the instructions given, which have been rigidly adhered to throughout the plans.

The offices are distinct in themselves, being in part separated by a central court 120 feet wide by 220 feet long.

The court would have at each end a carriage and two foot entrances. It is proposed to make it available for the entrance to the bookbinding and printing department, and to receive the various requirements for the offices, such as coals, paper, &c., and supplies to each official residence.

A private entrance is also reserved for state visits to the Foreign Minister's residence.

The War Office has five entrances, each communicating with spa-

cious, lofty, and well-lighted corridors; the principal entrance being from Parliament-street.

From a central hall corridors lead to the various departments; the scientific being placed together on one side of the ground floor.

To the Foreign Office there are four entrances, so planned as to render each part equally accessible to the public.

The central hall and principal staircase are similar to those in the War Office; a second principal staircase being provided from the basement to the second floor, having a private entrance from the Park, and directly communicating with the Secretary of State's offices.

The Libraries are so arranged as to be in the most quiet part of the building. The Conference-room of the Consulate department is arranged with an approach and lobby on each side for private consultation.

The Official Residence is placed fronting the parade in St. James's Park, forming one angle of the Foreign Office, being distinct in itself, but having private communications with the office, the entrance being from the parade: but the building is so planned as to render the other entrances, together with the grand staircase, the central hall, and the galleries above, and the second principal staircases, available for public receptions, the communication with the various departments being shut off by sliding doors.

The principal approach to the State Dining-room (85 feet by 38 feet) is through a grand circular ante-saloon. Upon the first floor is placed a grand ball-room (120 feet by 38 feet), with five reception-rooms *en suite*, with various approaches, the chief approach being through a circular conservatory, surmounted by a glass dome. Two drawing-rooms are reserved for the private use of the family.

We may state that Mr. Dwyer met with able and important assistance in his labours from Mr. Henry Parsons, of Gresham House, architect.



SEVENTH PRIZE DESIGN FOR THE WAR AND FOREIGN OFFICES (JOHN DWYER, ARCHITECT); PREMIUM, £100.



SCENE OF THE GEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES AT SWANAGE, DORSET.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY F. BRIGGS.

THE WESTMINSTER QUARTER-BELLS.

THE fourth quarter-bell for the Clock Tower of Westminster is a very fine-toned bell, and it will be a pity if the forthcoming smaller Big Ben should come out of tune with it, so as to necessitate the recasting of either. But of that we trust no chance exists, as Mr. Mears has all the data now required, which Messrs. Warner had to search out themselves.

The following are the dimensions, weights, and notes of the bells:—

	Size.	Weight.	Note.
1st	45 in. diameter.	21 cwt.	G sharp.
2nd	48 "	26 cwt.	F sharp.
3rd	54 "	35 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb.	E natural.
4th	72 "	3 tons 17 cwt. 3 qrs. 24 lb.	B natural.

The new patent of John Warner and Sons for improvements in the manufacture of large church bells enables the patentees to bring out a bell to any note or weight with almost absolute certainty, and is evidently a very much more scientific mode than the old one of moulding large bells.

The necessity of tuning, which, when required, is done by machinery, is thus in most cases superseded; and the bells are truer in form and produce a more harmonious sound than when the thickness is not equal all round the bell. Another great advantage is, that large bells can now be sold at a much cheaper rate than formerly.

Messrs. Warner have also just cast the beautiful tenor for the Aberdeen town bells, of which the *Aberdeen Herald* speaks in the following terms:—

"We feel the utmost pleasure in announcing that Mr. Denison, Q.C., has tried the large bell cast by Messrs. Warner for our church tower, and gives a verdict of unqualified approval in its favour. In a letter to the Provost, of date Thursday last, he says—'I have now heard your great bell, and think it the best bell of the size I ever heard. It is exactly E flat by present concert pitch, and, therefore, will easily tune down a little to the old E flat which is required by your present bells. This is exactly what I intend, as there is a difficulty in raising the note without spoiling a bell, but none in lowering it. It is a very fine and smooth casting, and, altogether, it is everything you or I could wish. . . . The hanging work here will probably be done by the time the small bells are cast, which ought to be done before Christmas. I hope they will be equally satisfactory.' Mr. Denison also speaks in terms of high praise of the unusually fine quality of the metal employed by Messrs. Warner for the bell, and declares that none better exists."

GEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES AT SWANAGE.

(From a Correspondent.)

I WENT this summer in search of Dr. James Hunt, who is now becoming well known as a curer of stammering, and who is, I am bound to say, the only man who has ever seemed to me to possess any scientific or rational understanding of that most distressing malady. I found him at Swanage, a spot unknown, perhaps, to three-fourths of the readers of this paper, but one well worth seeing, and when once seen not easily to be forgotten.

At the east end of the Isle of Purbeck is a little semicircular bay, its northern horn formed by high cliffs of white chalk, ending in white isolated stacks and peaks, round whose feet the blue sea ripples for ever. In the centre of the bay the softer "wealden beds" have been worn away, forming an amphitheatre of low sand and clay cliffs. The southern horn is formed by the dark limestone beds of the Purbeck marble. A quaint old-world village slopes down to the water over the green downs, quarried, like some gigantic rabbit-burrow, with the stone-workings of 700 years. Landlocked from every breeze, huge elms



THE QUARTER-BELLS FOR THE GREAT CLOCK AT WESTMINSTER



BOAT FROM THE "MADRAS" STEAMER PICKING UP AN ARAB BUDGEROW IN THE RED SEA, WITH CAPT. GOUGH AND THE AUSTRALIAN MAILS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

flourish on the dry sea beach, and the gayest and tenderest garden flowers bask under the hot stone walls. A pleasanter spot for summer sea-bathing is not to be found eastward of the Devon coast than Swanage, and all which is wanted to make it famous is houses into which visitors can put their heads at night.

As was to be expected from the variety of soils, and the sheltered situation, I found the neighbourhood rich in rare plants and insects, the sea-beach strewn with numberless sea-weeds; but the great attraction of Swanage, to those who dabble in science, is the extraordinary number and value of its fossil remains.

The excavations, of which I send you a View, are interesting as the scene of important geological discoveries. They owe their existence to the energy and acuteness of one man—S. H. Beckles, Esq., F.G.S., who began them in December last, with the view of ascertaining if mammalia, or other air-breathing animals of a high order, existed in any number during the age in which the Secondary rocks were deposited.

NEARLY all that is now left us of this eventful year is the practical lesson it has taught us. The past is an experience which is to be applied to the future. In some respects, and especially in relation to our monetary concerns, the future of this country seems to be comprised in a period in which we recover from national shocks ; that is, about ten years. There is a striking periodicity in our commercial crises. In the last quarter of the century they have each occurred at the end of about ten years. We had sufficiently forgotten the crash of 1825 to be astonished by the troubles of 1837 ; and when the panic of 1847 came upon us we discovered that we had something in that way yet to learn ; but the warning was set at nought until we remembered it in the midst of the sharp commercial throes of 1857. It was in 1848 that our last difficulties in India had to be combated, so that there is another testimony to the doctrine which speculative philosophers have laid down that the events of the world move in cycles, and that the occurrences of to-day are only the systematic reproduction of the occurrences of a time more or less long ago. Without yielding absolutely to the influence of the kind of fatalism which is involved in this theory, we may, nevertheless, take it as a fact that we, as a nation, have periodically to go through hard trials, from which we have to recover in due time ; for changes for the better are equally a portion of the aforesaid periodicity and reproduction. The deduction which we desire to be drawn from the semi-mysticism of the above remarks is, that we ought to have a hope, which, indeed, is merging into an expectation, that the new year will bring with it something more than the seeds and the promise of happier fortunes for the country. Already there are signs and symptoms of recovery in the commercial world. All the monetary barometers are going up. We hear that a considerable fall in the value of money is evidently impending ; that the funds are buoyant ; that railway shares are in active demand, in most cases at considerably advanced rates, and that so

great a rise has taken place in the price of the more permanent investments that attention is turned to a variety of securities which have hitherto been neglected; that all the markets have a favourable appearance; that the returns of the Bank of England are highly satisfactory; and that a large amount of money is seeking employment in Government securities at a very diminished rate of interest. Into this question it is not our province to enter here; and so much has been said, only by way of illustration of the argument, that, after a money loss which is variously estimated at fifty, seventy, and a hundred millions, there are strength and spirit, and to spare, in the resources of the country; and if individuals have gone down, and commercial associations have broken to pieces, in almost every case it will be found that their fall has been the result of a false system, which, if it were called by its right name, would be designated reckless gambling. These are the excesses on the body of sound commerce which a severe convulsion has had the effect of shaking off, leaving the system on which they preyed so much relieved and the lighter. In this respect, then, we would urge that all things tend to revival and recovery.

Turning to that other great trouble of the time—our perilled supremacy in India—we have equal cause for looking forward hopefully. The next mail will probably bring tidings of the commencement of the exterminating march of our troops over rebellion, and the period for looking at the revolt in its real light has almost arrived. No one now seems to entertain the idea that the rebellion was a national movement. None of the thousand and one native races spread over that vast continent have risen against us, except, perhaps, the more warlike portion of the inhabitants of Oude, which is in many respects exceptional. As a whole the rural population in every part of India have stood aloof, and watched the contest between the Sepoys and the English, and that without the interruption of the cultivation of the soil to an appreciable extent. Of the hundred and fifty millions of Asiatics over whom our rule has been extended not more than two hundred thousand have risen in arms against us, including the criminals liberated from gaols and the regular robber population, who have become the secret or avowed allies of the revolted soldiery. Even that number bears a small proportion to the extent of the military population proper. The armed men—the soldiers by profession in our service and that of the native Princes, count between seven hundred and eight hundred thousand. A fraction, therefore, of these only has adopted the cause of the rebels. Of the Rajahs, Nizams, or by whatever name the more or less puppet royalties with which the country is dotted, and who acknowledge our rule in its actuality, however they may bear the name of Princes, only three or four have declared against us, and they are among the very minor dignitaries of their class—the King of Delhi being the most conspicuous by name, although he has long been without a territory; and as to Nana Sahib, he is not a monarch at all. On the other hand, the most powerful of the native Princes have done their best in some instances to keep their subjects in hand; and in others have done us good service as allies, notable among whom is that Jung Bahadoor of Nepal who a few years ago made such a sensation in London by the display of his wealth, and who, it is said, got so thoroughly inoculated with English habits, good or bad, as the case may be, that in viewing a question he is accustomed to consider what “the Times” would say about it.” Then, looking at this mutiny in its strictest sense as a revolt of the native soldiery, it cannot be forgotten that the Bombay and Madras armies are practically intact, and actually, in many instances, used as instruments for putting down the outbreak of the Bengal Sepoys. Lucknow being taken, every important fortress and city is in our hands, and for the future the settling of the rebellion will become an affair of police. Looking at it from a political point of view, this revolt, formidable as it was, has not been successful; and it has resulted in a thorough arousing of the mind of this country to a sense of the importance of India, to a consciousness of defects in its Government, and to a resolve to undertake its reform. Thirty years ago it was written by one who knew India well, “that the British Legislature has but slowly followed the progress of the power of the East India Company in India. It has legislated for factories on a foreign shore when the Company was in possession of provinces; and, when the laws were completed to govern those, it had obtained kingdoms. That the present Government is inadequate, and the laws under which it exists defective, and not calculated for the greatness of the empire, every one acquainted with the subject must acknowledge; and the time probably approaches when some great change must take place.” That which was said in 1827 is equally true of 1857, with this difference only, that the probability of approaching changes is transformed into certainty.

Whether, then, we look at home, or to the far land in which so many of our sympathies have been engaged, let us believe that the prospect is favourable, and that a little more patience and a little more manly endurance are all that will be required of us before England once more rights herself. It is not to-day that the inhabitants of these islands have known what it was to go through trial and suffering, and to bear the pangs of hope deferred, and that, too, when the eye sought vainly for a break in the dark cloud which overhung the future. And now, at this moment, let every justice be done to the courage, the endurance, which is exhibited by thousands, not in the excitement of the battle-field, but silently in the home contest with pinching poverty. Many an eloquent pen chronicles the fortitude and resignation of those who have had to go through the fiery ordeal of the Indian revolt; but who will describe the equal heroism of the innocent sufferers from the crisis at home? We earnestly trust that the worst is over, and that the new year will be the dawn of returning prosperity; nay, more, we believe it.

THE CHAPEL ROYAL, ST. JAMES'S.—This chapel was closed on the 10th inst., to make preparations for the marriage of the Princess Royal with Prince Frederick William of Prussia, and will not be reopened until Ash Wednesday. The Bishop of London, it is thought, will perform the ceremony, as Dean of the Chapels Royal, the Dean thereof, officiating in the chapels, acknowledging no superior save the Queen. His Lordship will be assisted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and probably by the Bishops of Winchester, Oxford, and Chester, and the Dean of Windsor. It is sixty years since the marriage of a Princess Royal of England. The last occasion was on the 18th May, 1797, when Charlotte Augusta Matilda, the eldest daughter of George III., conferred her hand on Frederick William, Hereditary Prince of Wurtemberg and Stuttgart. The marriage took place at this chapel, between the hours of one and three o'clock.

THE COURT.

The Queen and Prince Consort, with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Arthur, Prince Leopold, Princess Alice, Princess Helena, Princess Louise, and Princess Beatrice, arrived at Windsor Castle, from Osborne, shortly before six o'clock on Saturday last.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Consort, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Princess Alice, Princess Helena, and the Duchess of Kent, the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service in the private chapel. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor performed the service.

On Monday his Excellency Count Platen had an audience of her Majesty to deliver his credentials as Minister from the Court of Sweden and Norway. In the evening the Queen's dinner party included the Duchess of Kent, the Prince of Wales, and the Princess Royal, his Excellency the Persian Ambassador, Ferukh Khan, the Count and Countess Platen, the Earl of Clarendon, and the Hon. Mrs. Grey.

On Tuesday his Excellency Ferukh Khan, Persian Envoy Extraordinary, had an audience to take leave on his return to Persia. A distinguished circle of visitors are invited to share her Majesty's Christmas hospitalities at the Castle.

The Countess of Gainsborough has succeeded the Duchess of Atholl as Lady in Waiting to her Majesty. The Hon. Lucy M. Kerr has arrived as Maid of Honour in Waiting. Lord Waterpark and Major-General Berkeley Drummond have also arrived as Lord and Groom in Waiting.

His Excellency Ferukh Khan, Persian Envoy Extraordinary, returned to Claridge's Hotel on Tuesday from visiting her Majesty at Windsor Castle. His Excellency is about to leave London on his return to Persia.

The Countess of Lichfield gave birth to a son on Tuesday at the family residence in Grosvenor-square. The Countess and infant are both progressing favourably.

The Earl and Countess Granville left town on Tuesday, on a visit to the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert and Mrs. Herbert, at Wilton House, near Salisbury.

Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston have left town for Broadlands for the holidays.

The Right Hon. B. Disraeli and Mrs. Disraeli have left Grosvenor-gate for Middleton Park, Oxon, on a visit to the Earl and Countess of Jersey.

TOYS MADE BY YOUNG GIRLS, THE PROFITS OF THE BUSINESS BEING FOR THEM.

THE employment and education of young girls in London and other large towns is an object which cannot but attract the attention and excite the good wishes and co-operation of all who are interested in the industrial classes; and particularly, perhaps, is the object one which will be valued by those ladies whose advantages of birth, education, and wealth, though placing them far beyond the reach of the sufferings, evils, and temptations which beset their poorer sisters, have not alienated their sympathies, but, on the contrary, made them ever ready to pity and to help those who move in a more thorny path of life than they themselves tread. To all who are interested in the female portion of the working class it is desirable to point out the Girls' Art-Toy Manufacture, carried on, under the direction of Mrs. Wilson, at 21, Percy-street. This little workshop was founded three years since, for the express purpose of combining the education and employment of girls, and it was and is intended that the profits of the business should be for the benefit of the workers, and vested in the hands of trustees, to form a marriage portion for them or be drawn out by them in adult age. How very greatly the accumulation of a little property, earned by a girl of this class in the years of maidenhood, would tend to the comfort of her family when she became a wife and mother it is not difficult to feel; nor yet how much of self-respect and honest independence a little possession of this sort would develop.

The toys are sold at counters 59 and 60, Soho Bazaar, London. Country orders should be addressed to Mrs. Amelia Wilson, 21, Percy-street, London, and post-office orders be made payable at the post-office, Tottenham-court-road. Subscriptions in aid of the institution are received by Miss Octavia Hill, 4, Russell-place, Fitzroy-square, London, W. The toys are sold singly or in sets; each set contains nine pieces. There are four sizes—1s. 6d., 5s., 6s. 6d., 7s. 6d.

An appeal is here earnestly made to ladies to purchase the art toys, for it is by the custom of ladies that the institution must be supported. Is it not better to buy toys made by English girls for their own profit, than German toys made by German prisoners and paupers? Half a million of money is spent annually in England in German toys. Surely, when this fact is known, Englishwomen will turn their custom into another channel, and let their money flow where their young poor sisters will benefit; where honest work of hand and carefully-conducted education are tending to the moral and social elevation of the workers.

Those who would know the rise of the institution are referred to *Household Words* (No. 321), under the head “Ragged Robin,” and to *Chambers's Journal* (No. 113), “Little Upholsterers.” The originators have in no way deviated from the plan stated in these journals; but the public must extensively become purchasers before there are either profits to invest, or before a considerable number of children can be employed at the wages they have hitherto received.

May those who at this season spend money in toys give themselves the pleasure of secretly reflecting when the Christmas present lights up the smile on their own children's blooming cheek that its purchase has kindled the smile on young faces perhaps more pale and careworn; and may the reflection of this conscientious use of the means placed at their disposal make to the benevolent their “Christmas” still more “merry,” and their “New Year” still more “happy.”

LECTURE BY CHARLES MACKAY IN NEW YORK.—Dr. Mackay delivered, at Mozart Hall, Broadway, New York, on the 3rd inst., the first of his course of lectures on the “National, Popular, and Historical Songs of England, Ireland, and Scotland.” The audience was large and select, and many persons of mark were upon the platform. The lecturer was introduced to the audience by the President of the Mechanics' and Clerks' Library Association by whose invitation the lectures are to be delivered. At the conclusion of the lecture, which was warmly cheered throughout, the Doctor read a few verses of his own composition on the “Voice of Poetry,” and, after announcing that the remarks which he had made were merely introductory, he closed amid great applause.

THE GENEALOGICAL AND HERALDIC DICTIONARY OF THE PEERAGE AND BARONETAGE. Twentieth Edition. 1859. By Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King of Arms. Harrison.—This twentieth edition for 1859 of Burke's well-known “Peerage and Baronetage” appears to have undergone careful and thorough revision, and brings down correctly its aristocratic contents to the ending of the present year. The book contains a world of interesting matter, genealogical, historical, and anecdotic. The Baronetage, the only complete Baronetage we have, presents features of peculiar attraction, for it gives us in full detail the new and noted Baronets, the merchant prince Sir James Jeeves, and the warriors Sir Archdale Wilson and Sir Henry Haylock, all of Indian celebrity. The following, from the article of “Havelock, Bart.” is the “lineage” of himself and his band of gallant brothers:—“William Havelock, Esq. of Sunderland, was the scion of an old family of the co. of Durham, which has existed there since the time of the Danes; he m., and, with other issue (his dau., Hannah, m. Robert Allan, Esq. of the family of Allan, of Blackwell Grange, co. Durham, and d. 9 Jan. 1837, aged 70), had a son, William Havelock, Esq. of Ingress Park, Kent, who m. Jane, dau. of John Carter, Esq. of Yarmouth, (by his wife, Elizabeth, a dau. of the old and distinguished house of Etrick, of High Barnes, co. Durham, and had issue, William, a lieutenant in the British service and K.H., who was wounded at the battle of Waterloo, where he acted as aide-de-camp to Baron Alten, and where he was one of the most chivalrous officers of the service.” He fell gloriously at the head of his regiment, the 14th Light Dragoons, in their desperate but successful charge on the Sikh army on the 22nd Nov. 1848. He m. Caroline, dau. of Acton Chaplin, Esq., and had issue, Henry, the hero of Lucknow, created a baronet, as above. Thomas, who served in Spain under Sir De Lacy Evans, and d. there unm., Charles-Frederick, a lieutenant-col. in the British army, and Major-General or Levea Pacha in the Imperial Ottoman army, with the order of Medjidie. This gallant officer, who has achieved much military fame, especially as a leader of cavalry, was b. at Ingress Park, 16 Oct. 1803, 1803, entered a cornet in the 16th Lancers in 1821, and went with his regiment the next year to India. His career there was long and glorious, being, during a period of more than twenty years, literally engaged in every Indian battle from the capture of Bhurtpore to the victory of Goojerat. He has medals or clasps for each engagement: he has them for Bhurtpore, Ghuznee, Tezeen, Cabul, Moodkee, Ferozeshah, Sobroon, and Goojerat. He was severely wounded at Ferozeshah. He became a lieutenant-col. in 1854, when he joined the Irregular Osmani Cavalry, and served as its brigadier-gen. till the peace with Russia in 1856. Gen. Charles Havelock m. 14 May, 1833, Mary, 2nd dau. of James Wemyss, Esq. of the Bengal C.S., and has issue.” The present edition fully maintains the high character this Peerage has borne for so long a period.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

THE NEWS FROM LUCKNOW.—In the Court of Queen's Bench on Wednesday, after the jury had retired, the Associate, at the request of Lord Campbell, read aloud the telegram from India announcing the relief of Lucknow. It was received with loud cheers by the large number of persons assembled. His Lordship joined heartily in the applause of the gratified audience.

LONDON CORPORATION REFORM.—The *Observer* professes to be acquainted with the forthcoming Government measure in reference to the London Corporation. The Court of Aldermen, according to our contemporary, will be materially altered in its constitution; the numbers will be reduced, and they will not be elected for life. Great alterations will also be made in the constitution of the Common Council and Common Hall. It is also probable that the bill of the Government will do away with the anomaly of having two bodies of police, and that the City police will therefore be united under one head and superintendence with the metropolitan police. A number of useless and obsolete offices in the Corporation will be abolished, and care will be taken for a safer and better administration of the funds and immense properties of the corporate body.

THE WARDMOTES.—On Monday, being St. Thomas's-day, the annual ward meetings were held throughout the City for the purpose of electing Common Councilmen and other ward officers for the ensuing year. There were fewer contests than usual, and the interest of the meetings was mainly derived from discussions of the projected corporation reforms. At the Dowgate wardmote, where the Lord Mayor presided, the new Common Councilmen took the opportunity of declaring undying hostility to the Corporation Reform Bill announced by Sir George Grey. The Lord Mayor, however, expressed his opinion that some reform of the corporate body would be a desirable thing.

ORDINATION BY THE BISHOP OF LONDON.—The Bishop of London held his third general ordination on Sunday morning in the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, on which occasion some fifty gentlemen were admitted respectively to the sacred offices of Deacon and Priest. The sermon was preached by the Rev. F. Temple, the Head Master of Rugby School. At the close of the sermon, the “candidates” (who appeared, however, in opposition to the meaning of the word, in black gowns instead of white surplices) were presented to the Bishop by his examining chaplain, the Rev. E. Penrhyn Stanley, and the ordination service commenced. The newly-ordained Priests and Deacons were afterwards received and entertained at London-house.

CHRIST CHURCH SCHOOLS, ST. GEORGE'S EAST.—These schools, which have been recently enlarged and rendered more commodious by the addition of three class-rooms and a master's house, the sum of £2000 having been expended on them during the last six months, were opened on Tuesday evening by a public examination of the senior classes of boys and girls. Twelve of the Government scholars' certificates and other prizes were distributed to the children by the chairman, the Rev. G. M. N. Gill, under whose directions the improvements have been effected. The examination of the children in domestic economy, mental arithmetic, Euclid, and the other subjects taught, was in every respect satisfactory to the large audience assembled. The day-school attendance during the past year has averaged 607; Sunday school, 350; adult school, 65; total, 1022.

METROPOLITAN TOLLGATES.—The Hon. George Byng, M.P., has signified his intention to move, on the reassembling of Parliament, for some returns and account in relation to the toll-gates and bars round the metropolis, and those parishes which now repair all their roads and streets without any aid or assistance, but entirely out of their local means; and also to those parishes who do not repair all their own roads, and whose main roads are not maintained out of local rates, but by the tolls collected at local gates and bars. This information will be important, as showing where lies the difficulty of clearing London of such barriers. Though the City of London authorities have abolished all their tolls, the gate in the City-road is kept up in a neighbouring parish. Whilst the principal parishes in the City of Westminster are without tollgates, and maintain their own roads, the turnpike-gate at Kensington is kept up in a Westminster parish.

WESTMINSTER PLAYS.—On Monday evening the “Adelphi” of Terence was performed a third time by the scholars of Westminster College, before an overflowing and highly-delighted audience, comprising a large number of ladies. The acting, as on the two previous occasions, was such as might fairly challenge the severest criticism, and not only evidenced careful scholarship, but a thorough appreciation of the spirit and peculiarities of the author.

THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK TRIALS will commence the first day of the Guildhall sittings of Hilary Term.

SEASONABLE BENEVOLENCE.—The inmates of the Printers' Almshouses, Wood-green, have been presented this week with a pound of tea, sugar, plums, &c., and also 10s. each. Some few members of the machine department were instrumental in procuring the above, by means of small collections. Each of the inmates had also been previously supplied with half a ton of coals from another source.

LAMBETH WORKING-MEN'S INSTITUTION.—An institute has just been opened in Lambeth, having for its object the moral and intellectual improvement of the working classes. A library, reading and class room, have been most comfortably fitted up at the expense of the president of the institution, the Rev. Mr. Lingham, Rector of Lambeth, assisted by a few gentlemen, one of whom, Mr. Roupell, member for Lambeth, has generously subscribed £100. The rooms on the opening night presented a most cheerful appearance, being tastefully decorated with pictures, flags, &c., when all the members and their friends, amounting together to about 250 working-men, sat down to a most excellent tea, provided by the president.

THE LAUNCHING OF THE “LEVIATHAN.” will not be resumed until the next spring tides, which happen at the close of this year and commencement of the ensuing year. Fresh buttresses have been erected nearer the cradles. The hydraulic power which will be applied on the resumption of the operation will be more than double that to which the ship has already been subjected. There are to be twelve additional hydraulic rams. She continues to sit even and fair on the cradles and ways.

THE SURREY GARDENS COMPANY was again before the Court of Bankruptcy on Saturday last. There seems to be every probability that the company, if allowed time, will pay ten shillings in the pound—an arrangement with which the creditors appear satisfied. The accounts have been thoroughly sifted by a committee, and the directors are exonerated from all suspicion of dishonesty, though there is no doubt of gross mismanagement. An adjournment of two months was granted.

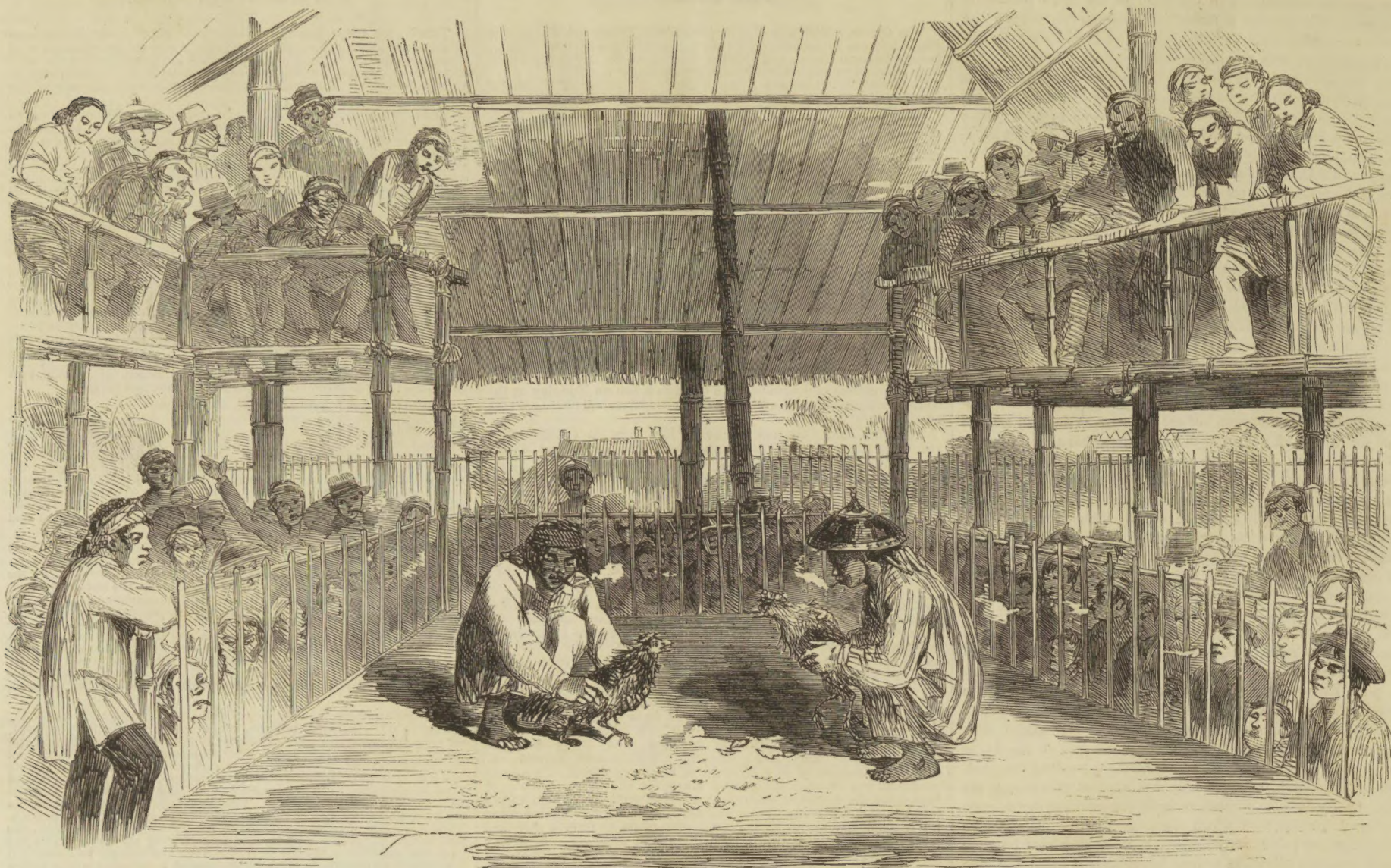
BIRTHS AND DEATHS.—Last week the births of 936 boys and 894 girls, in all 1830 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1847-56 the average number was 1593. —The deaths registered in London, which were 1423 in the first week of the current month, and fell to 1240 in the second, were in the week that ended last Saturday 1234. In the ten years 1847-56 the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1249. The present rate of mortality approximates very nearly to that which is to be expected towards the close of the year.

AN INQUEST was held on Monday at Hardwick-place, Hampstead-road, on the body of Mrs. Charlotte Augusta Macdonald, aged thirty-four, who, on Saturday last, after having inflicted serious injuries upon her husband and her servants with a razor, threw herself out of the second-floor window, dying in a few minutes from the effects of the fall. After hearing the evidence the jury returned the following verdict:—“That the deceased committed the shocking act which led to her death whilst in a state of insanity.”

SUICIDE.—On Thursday week Mr. F. W. Stephens, a stock-broker, preferred a charge of robbery against a gentleman named Kilby. The Lord Mayor dismissed the case, assuring Mr. Kilby that he would leave the court without the slightest taint upon his character. The disgrace which Mr. Kilby conceived to be attached to his confinement in a police cell so preyed upon his mind, however, that, notwithstanding every effort was made to cheer him, he daily grew worse, and on Sunday morning put an end to his existence by cutting his throat.

THE MURDER AND SUICIDE IN ST. PANCRAS.—On Monday the adjourned inquest on the bodies of the man and woman discovered with their throats cut in the bedroom they occupied at Harper's coffee-house, 38, Drummond-street, Euston-square, on the night of Sunday, the 13th inst., was resumed before Mr. Wakley, the coroner, and the jury empaneled on Wednesday week. The jury returned the following verdict:—“That the deceased persons were found dead from exhaustion by loss of blood occasioned by incised wounds in their throats, but under what circumstances the said wounds were inflicted there was not sufficient evidence to show.”

FIRES AND LOSS OF LIFE.—On Saturday morning last a fire broke out in the house No. 28, Anchor-street, Spitalfields, which resulted in the destruction of a considerable amount of property and the loss of three lives.—Mr. and Mrs. Metcalfe, and their daughter, aged eleven. The unfortunate family had been suffocated, and their bodies were found all huddled together.—A fire took place at a house in Upper Bryanstone-street, Edgware-road, on Saturday night. Two children were so dreadfully burned that they died shortly after their admission into the hospital.—On Monday morning a fire broke out in the house of Mr. Bulpin, Bazelzeoph-street, Long-lane, Bermondsey. The fire was caused by Mrs. Bulpin falling against the grate and setting fire to her clothes; she was so frightfully burnt that she died in a few minutes; and the engine of the London Brigade, which was soon in attendance, had some difficulty in putting out the fire, which had seized upon the floorings and furniture of the house.



COCK-FIGHTING AT MANILLA.

SKETCHES IN MANILLA.

(From our Special Artist and Correspondent.)

I THINK the Indians' idea of paradise is one vast cockpit; you never see the rascals in their full glory; but here the very Celestials are bitten with the mania, and back their birds against anybody's. The "funcion" only takes place on Sundays and high days. The betting almost beats Epsom; but, to their praise be it said, they are most honourable in paying what they have lost. An American naval officer one afternoon won eighty dollars, but, giving it to a sailor to put on board as he was to drive out, it all slipped out of his hand and fell into the sea, "soon, soon, soon lost."

The cock's spurs are as sharp as razors, and often "rooster" falls dead at first start. Should a cock show any timidity, the niggers yell a high-pressure shriek in the most frantic manner; and, as there is always an unfortunate white feather among the "gallos," the above sound often fills the air on Sunday afternoons. The match commences by two fellows starting the cocks, and getting their steam up. As soon as No. 1 has beaten No. 2 there is a short rest, and the next couple come on. This lasts till dusk, when "all creation" may be seen coming out, like a torrent of live shirts, with dead and living cocks; added to which is a smart sprinkling of friends from our Celestial neighbours.



NIPA HOUSES AT MANILLA.

The village padre is often a sportsman, and, after instructing the interesting little natives in the way they should go in the morning, in the afternoon he teaches the cocks the way they should fight. On Sunday morning he dons his clerical costume, and exhorts his hearers, who fill the church to overflowing. On Sunday afternoon he exhorts his "rooster," and bets like any other mortal, surrounded by his admiring assembly. The padre is, generally, very hospitable and jovial; he receives all creeds alike under the shelter of his roof, never bothers you with questions as to whether you are a Papist, Unitarian, Fireworshipper, Ginworshipper, Dervish, &c., but says at once, "This is your house, and make yourself at home." Apropos of padres, there is only one religion publicly allowed here, and that is the Roman Catholic.

Postprandial enjoyment is the true representation of the *dolce far niente* of fraternal residents in Manilla. You will please to observe in the Illustration that our positions are not studied; likewise, that we combine ease and pleasure—the rocking-chair of America, the noble invention of that inventive brother of ours, and the still more luxurious Chinese bamboo arm-chair, that perfection of human ingenuity in the finding out of a perfect chair. Tell me, after that, the Chinese are not a great people! never sit in one of these chairs without blessing



MARKET WOMEN OF MANILLA.



THE RAINY SEASON, MANILLA!

the whole Chinese race, except Yeh. Look at the lower part, that pulls out without your having to get up; look at that wondrous elongation of the arm to rest your legs upon!

The windows are open—jossstick burns in his boat—coffee is on the table—weeds in our mouths. I'm awfully afraid if the *Lancet* hears of our smoking we shall get a wiggling, as we certainly exceed two cigars a day. Don't tell them, for goodness sake! they'll be down upon us like falling stars.

It is raining in the most frightful manner—the noise of ten thousand waterfalls, the wind helping—we were surrounded by water this morning. The sun has not made his appearance to-day; but now, at night, our friends the frogs are making themselves heard at intervals, when the rain is not loud enough. By Jove! what a din! it's worse than ever. We have had several earthquakes lately, which, had they happened in London, No. 198, Strand, would have been nowhere.



MILKMAN OF MANILLA.

The rain has suggested a little Sketch of the charms of this moist season, our streets being generally flooded in the morning. The milkman is transferred to paper as you see: he trots along Chinese fashion, with his bamboo milk arrangement. The men carry water in bamboos too; I saw a fellow up the country bring in several yards (of water). The milkmaid carries her milk on the head.

The *Tribune* went back to Hong-Kong a few days ago with some of the commissariat officers who came over here to arrange about several things. Many of the 59th left for Calcutta. No fighting yet; at all events not before November or December. At the end of October Hong-Hong gets inhabitable, and the winter is splendid and healthy, though somewhat cold sometimes; but September is very sickly indeed.

Oct. 10, 1857.

I scarcely think I need describe any more of those lively aquatic scenes, as the rainy season is just over, barring an oc-



MANILLA MILK WOMAN.

casional shower. The north-east monsoon is the wind for bright skies, and we are enjoying the brightest just now. Night is the time for luxuriating in such an atmosphere. The dinner being duly discussed, we step into an open carriage, and on music nights drive to the Plaza del Palacio, where numerous military bands play; and delightful it is to lie gazing at the stars, the soft air of the night mingling with the delicious streams of harmony. "Moonlight love and music" are perfectly understood in Spanish colonies.

This square is formed by the Cathedral, the Governor's Palace, and Townhall, called the Cabildo: in the centre is the garden where the people walk to enjoy the music, round and round, like horses in a mill. The Cathedral has a very picturesque tower attached. There is a statue in the middle of one Charles IV. or V. Just now the square is illuminated, and the Governor's Palace with red fixings on the balconies, and an awning of the same hue over a portrait of the Queen, Isabel II.

Hong-Kong, Oct. 29, 1857.

Hong-Kong looks so bright, so clean, and cheerful that it does one good to look at it. The sun continues to blaze away, but the atmosphere is cooler. The harbour is full of war-vessels; the *Imperador* arrived yesterday with 500 marines; the gun-boats have all numbers painted on them: we, that is the *Cormorant*, with the gun-boat *Banterer*, arrived from Manila this morning. You have no idea what hard work it is towing up a gun-boat in a heavy sea; the hawsers are continually stranding, and the anxiety and worry to the towers are excessive, and, what is worse, they get no credit for it. More gun-boats will coal at Manila, as we did, and come on in a few days. We shall soon begin. My letters will henceforth be dated from

up the river, instead of from here. We intend to take Canton before the end of next month, or by the beginning of next. General Ashburnham goes to India to-morrow. Lord Elgin's steamer, the *Ava*, looks very nice; the little blue-painted boat at her side is No. 1. There has been nothing doing since my absence—the same humdrum life. This China expedition is a strange affair. Our General without an army, our Plenipotentiary here in harbour—nothing attempted since Fatsham, and that a junk matter. Our heads are not considered worth much now, at all events; and I think one might safely go over to the other side, and John Chinaman would have too much contempt to touch us. Going ashore last night in a boat manned by a happy family of Chinese, Paterfamilias, among other things, began talking of Canton, and said, "In two, tree year can catches!" which, from the pace we have been going on at, seems likely.

A friend of mine went ashore with me and nursed the youngest baby in the boat. I let out all the Chinese words I knew, and rattled away in the language in vogue here. I saw a game of shuttlecock yesterday for the first time. They play with their feet, the same as the Manila men I sent you. It is astonishing how long they



MANILLA WATER-CARRIER.

keep the ball up. I send you a sampan-girl with the baby tied to her back, China fashion, and her hair done the way the married women wear it. I am going out this morning to make some street sketches, as I have been too hot till now for that work. The *Times* correspondent, I hear, has just arrived from Shanghai, so we shall be at the taking of Canton together. I don't expect there will be much fighting. As for Pekin, I don't know what to think of it. Lord Elgin gave a picnic at the Bogue the other day to a select party of young ladies; I hear the next is to be in the White Cloud Mountains; perhaps friend Yeh will be among the guests, I shouldn't wonder, the whole affair has been so extraordinary. However, we shall soon see. The weather is splendid—bright and warm. The Peak is free from cloud. The mail is just leaving; so I must conclude this short epistle.



A POSTPRANDIAL SCENE AT MANILLA.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE telegram from India received on Wednesday marks this Christmas "with a white stone," and elevates its congratulations from their ordinary level to something real and truthful. The message contains tidings of the deliverance of Lucknow from the hordes of savages that were envying it. Several days of severe and bloody struggle ended in the rout of the rebels, and the relief of Lucknow. The women, children, and sick, have been removed to Cawnpore, and Sir Colin Campbell, with 22,000 men, was left ready to begin the work of vengeance. None of this generation will ever look upon a holly-branch without recalling memories of this providential victory. And we have something to distinguish the Christmas of 1857 from the uniform round of periods at which we are expected to be "jovial," in spite of bad weather, influenzas, colds, heavy bills, disagreeable relations, indigestion, and the other luxuries which go to make up the conventional Christmas. There is one other way, however, in which each one may cause, if not "jollity," at least thankfulness and happiness, and that is by ministering, privately and with delicacy, to some who feel their poverty the bitterer at the time that their more prosperous neighbours are making vauntful revel. Let every one determine that the new year shall not arrive before he has done something to make it open pleasantly to some needy acquaintance.

India has been called the brightest jewel in the crown of Queen Victoria, and as that jewel is about to be re-set—set clear, in fact, of the foil of Leadenhall-street—we must all hope that it will shine out with double splendour; for it will be wanted. We learn that the other Crown jewels, or a large portion of them, are likely to be taken away from the revolving cupboard in the Tower, and transferred to Hanover. Some of them, it is understood, were brought over by George I., and belong to the Hanoverian regalia; while others were purchased by George III., and bequeathed by him to the Sovereign of Hanover. The claim has been urged for a long time, but the Ministers of George V. have contrived to force the point to a decision, which is that the jewels must be given up. One of the lions in the Tower used always to die, in the most loyal manner, when anything had happened to the reigning Prince; and, had the menagerie been kept up, a regular leonine mortality might have been expected at such an announcement as this. But the animals are all gone, since 1834. Still, a despairing beefeater might jump from the Lion Tower—that at the S.W. corner—by way of commemorating the melancholy event. Were the country at peace, and no financial crisis had made thousands miserable, it would have been a graceful act on the part of John Bull to present his Sovereign with a new set, on the marriage of the Princess Royal; but no one would feel more strongly than the illustrious lady herself that, at such a time as this, the national expenditure of £100,000 in trinkets would be worse than wrong.

The French trial, regarding which so much interest has been excited, has terminated curiously. It is decided by the jury that the Jeufosse family were justified in ordering their gamekeeper to shoot the scoundrel Guillot, and that the servant was also justified in doing it. But it is decided by the Judges that the acquitted parties are to be mulcted in the costs of the prosecution. There is no doubt of the lawlessness of the act for which the parties were tried, and yet the verdict has received general approbation. Had the rascal Guillot been killed in endeavouring to steal some silver spoons, or to rob a strong-box, no one would have objected to his being fired at; but because he came with ten times as wicked an object, namely, to cast slander upon the fame of a young daughter of the house, a few writers, inspired by the old traditions that treat property as so very sacred a thing, and character as so slight a one, complain that Madame Jeufosse should have had as much regard for her daughter as would have been praiseworthy had it been manifested for her plate-chest.

From Russia we are about to receive back (and he will be heartily welcomed) the excellent Baron Brunnov, who left us, we are glad to believe, as reluctantly as we parted with him, when war was declared. He comes back, too, with an increased dignity, and is now Ambassador.

Lord Palmerston's monster gun has not proved a failure, as maliciously represented by journals of adverse political principles. It was fired with success, and the trifling accident which occurred to it would not, according to its makers, have necessitated the ceasing to fire, had "Big Pam" been playing upon Sebastopol or Delhi. The damage will speedily be repaired; and the Prime Minister, who probably desires to rival S. M. of France in fame as an artillery officer, will be handed down to posterity as not only particularly skilful in making enemies, but still more so in demolishing them. It may also be observed that the other monster gun is declared to be quite ready for use, and stationed at Shoeburyness until needed. England is like Athelstan the Unready, in "Ivanhoe." If her weapons could only be drawn in time, she would annihilate everybody.

The jury have decided that Beale, tried for the savage murder of a poor girl in Leigh Woods, near Clifton, a few months ago, is the guilty person, and he is sentenced to die. The case affords another of the proofs, perpetually recurring, of the extremely slender chance of escape that is left to the perpetrator of the most ingeniously-contrived crime. The mode in which the assassin was traced, and the gradual coiling of the links around him, until, boa-constrictor like, they tighten with a fatal embrace, is worth study. In another case in which a cowardly young profligate endeavoured to murder, in a very brutal manner, a poor girl whom he had led astray, a similar punishment should have been awarded as in Beale's case; but the jury, with that feeble reasoning characteristic of certain minds, avoided finding the ruffian guilty of murder, because, almost by miracle, the poor victim had survived; but the Judge marked his sense of the atrocity, and his opinion of the jury, by sentencing this cold-blooded barbarian to penal servitude for life.

"Spare the rod and spoil the child," wrote the wisest of men and kings; but he is not wise enough for the city of London. There it is thought that "other means of punishment are better." Severe, possibly over-severe, flogging seems to have been bestowed upon a boy, stated to be idle and insolent, at the Brewers' Company's Schools, and the case is brought before the chief magistrate, who has sent it to the Sessions. It is perfectly right that anything like tyranny or cruelty on the part of a schoolmaster should be punished; and, in fact, any person who even punishes a child, in anger, is utterly unfit for the care of children; but we will not prejudge a case *sub lite*. There seems marvellous little of the Spartan about the inferior classes in England. At Eton, and the other great schools, a young aristocrat, guilty of false quantities or unlawful squibs, receives a scourging which would amply satisfy one of the aforementioned Spartans; but he makes no riot and bears no malice, and you never hear him speak of "old Keate" or any other of his castigators but with affection and regard; whereas, if an embryo cheesemonger happens to catch a few extra cuts, a police case is made of it, and the changes are rung on "brutality" and all sorts of crimes. Evidently Solomon would have soon been dismissed from a classical, commercial, and mathematical academy in London.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

S. P. R. C. H. HOLE.—If, in Problem 719, Black for his first move play K to Kt 8th, or K to B 8th, White can so obviously mate in the two next moves—by 2. R to Q 8th, and 3. K to Q 8th—that it was not thought necessary to give the variation R. W. G., Edinburgh.—Very pretty and interesting as a real termination of a game; but somewhat too evident, perhaps, for a set Problem.

C. A. H.—You should send a perfect solution. It is not sufficient to say so-and-so is the key-move.

P. C. H. Fortescue.—You are very wide of the mark. See the published solution.

W. Cambridge, will, perhaps, oblige us with another copy of the game; the former has unfortunately got mislaid at the moment it was wanted for publication.

EDMUND.—"The Chess Player's Handbook," published by Bohn, of Covent Garden.

C. LEVENTHORPE, North Carolina.—Received, and now under consideration.

A. STURCHER, Shaftesbury.—Perhaps a Subscriber will be good enough to show us where, in Problem 719, the Black King can move after White plays Q to her 3rd (ch). If he can find a square, he will do what we admit our inability to accomplish.

E. F. H.—Very neat to occur in actual play, though not at all difficult to see through.

J. H. W.—As the act of taking in Chess consists in removing the conquered man and placing that which captures on the square the former occupied, we are somewhat puzzled to understand your query, whether a man under certain circumstances cannot take so h a piece and Pawn at the same time! Before attempting to play again, get some easy introduction to the game and learn the moves and rules.

CLEMENT M.—In some cases; but not always.

D. W. F., Astor Library, New York, is thanked for his prompt and acceptable information.

A. S. and J. O. A., Manchester.—In the diagram of your end-game you have not merely omitted to mark which is White and which is Black a side, but have left out some of the men. Mate in four moves is quite impossible in the position sent to us.

ADOLPHUS, LILE DEIL, S. H. M., J. T. F.—Such compositions having nothing enigmatical in them, their mystery is open at a glance to the very "meanest capacity."

G. P.—We know of no Chess Club at or near Camden-town.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM NO. 721, by ANNABEL, Iodine, L. M. D., S. P. Q. R., Philo-Chess, M. P., Wynne, Augusta, M. D., Wilfred, George, Henricus, T. L. N., N. C. H., T. W., Fawn, W. B. of Worley, T. J. of Hanworth, Derwent, Lido Dell, R. Eastin, D. D., Medicus, A. Subaltern, Winifred, Max, Nemo, Box and Cox, Peterkin, T. L. F., G. P. H. S., Herr K., Manfred, Alpha, W. G., J. T. K., Bradford, P. S. R., W. P. G., Sumph, Omicron, D. T. S., W. C. Weighton, C. P. J., Yoxford, Adolphus, D. W. O'C., Sligo, are correct. All others are wrong.

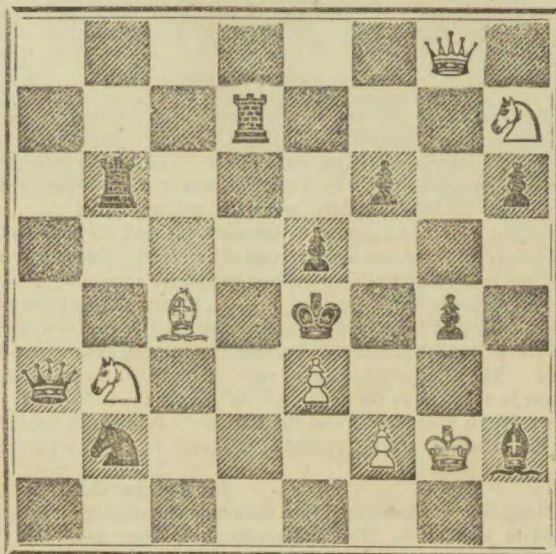
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 720.

The author's solution of this Problem has not reached us; but he appears to have overlooked something in the composition, as it admits of a too easy solution by:—

1. R to K 2nd (ch), and
2. R takes K B P (ch); or, 2. R to Q Kt 3rd (dis. ch)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 721.

- | | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|---|--------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. | WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1. Q takes Q B P | K to K 4th, or (a) | 3. B takes R—Mate. | |
| 2. Q to Q B 6th | Anything | | |
| (a) 1. | B to K B 2nd | 2. Q takes R (ch), and mates next move. | |

PROBLEM NO. 723.—By F. HEALEY.
BLACK.

WHITE.
White to play, and mate in four moves.

CHESS IN THE UNITED STATES.

Game played by the two chief Victors in the American Tournament.
(Two Knights' Game.)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------|--|-------------------------|
| WHITE (Mr. Paulsen). | BLACK (Mr. Morphy). | WHITE (Mr. Paulsen). | BLACK (Mr. Morphy). |
| 1. P to K 4th | P to K 4th | (Forseeing one manœuvre, Black had been planning that of taking the Rook, &c.; but quite overlooking another equally fatal.) | |
| 2. K Kt to K B 3rd | Q Kt to Q B 3rd | 17. Q takes B | |
| 3. Q Kt to Q B 3rd | K Kt to K B 3rd | (This is very well conceived.) | |
| 4. K B to Kt 5th | K B to Q B 4th | 18. P takes Q | K R to K Kt 3rd (ch) |
| 5. Castles | Castles | 19. K to R sq | Q B to K R 6th |
| 6. K Kt takes K P | K R to K sq | 20. K R to Q sq | B to K Kt 3rd (ch) |
| (Had he taken Kt with Kt, White would, of course, have won a piece in return by playing P to Q 4th.) | | 21. K to Kt sq | B takes K B P (dis. ch) |
| 7. Kt takes Q Kt | Q P takes Kt | 22. K to B sq | B to K Kt 3rd (ch) |
| 8. K B to Q B 4th | P to Kt 4th | 23. K to Kt sq | B to K R 6th (dis. ch) |
| 9. K B to K 2nd | Kt takes K P | 24. K to R sq | K B takes K B P |
| 10. Kt takes Kt | K R takes Kt | 25. Q to K B sq | Q B takes Q |
| 11. K B to his 3rd | K R to K 3rd | 26. K R takes B | K R to K 7th |
| 12. P to Q B 3rd | Q to Q 6th | 27. Q R to his sq | K R to K R 3rd |
| 13. P to Q Kt 4th | K B to Q Kt 3rd | 28. P to Q 4th | B to K 6th |
| 14. P to Q R 4th | P takes P | And White resigned. | |
| 15. Q takes P | Q B to Q 2nd | | |
| 16. Q R to Q R 2nd | Q R to K sq | | |
| 17. Q to Q R 6th | | | |

Another Skirmish, between Mr. C. H. STANLEY and Mr. P. MORPHY.
(King's Bishop's Gambit.)

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------|---|-----------------|
| WHITE (Mr. S.) | BLACK (Mr. M.) | WHITE (Mr. S.) | BLACK (Mr. M.) |
| 1. P to K 4th | P to K 4th | 14. K takes P | Q to Q Kt 3rd |
| 2. P to K B 4th | P takes P | 15. Q to K 2nd | Castles |
| 3. K B to Q B 4th | Q to K R 5th (ch) | 16. K B to Q B 4th | Q Kt to Q B 3rd |
| 4. K to B sq | P to Q Kt 4th | 17. P to Q B 3rd | K to R sq |
| 5. K R to Q Kt 3rd | K Kt to K B 3rd | 18. Q to K 3rd | |
| 6. K Kt to K B 3rd | Q to K R 3rd | (From the play in this and other games before us, it is evident that Mr. Stanley has lost so much of his former vigour at Chess that he would perhaps have done wisely not to enter the arena at all in the present tourney.) | |
| 7. Q Kt to Q B 3rd | P to Q Kt 5th | 19. Q takes Q | P to K B 4th |
| 8. Q Kt to Kt 5th | Q B to Q R 3rd | 20. K takes P | P takes Kt (ch) |
| 9. K B to Q B 4th | Q B takes Kt | | Kt to K B 3rd |
| 10. K B takes Q B | K Kt to K R 4th | | |
| 11. K to K 2nd | P to Kt 4th | | |
| 12. Kt to K 5th | K B to K Kt 2nd | | |
| 13. Kt to K Kt 4th | P to K B 6th (ch) | | |
| (The best move; if White take Pawn on f3, Pawn, Black wins a piece at least.) | | | |

CHALLENGE TO EUROPEAN CHESS-PLAYERS.—The American Chess Association, it is reported, are about to challenge any player in Europe to contest a match with the young victor in the late passage of arms, for from 2000 to 5000 dollars a side, the place of meeting to be New York. If the battle-ground were to be London or Paris there can be little doubt, we apprehend, that a European champion would be found; but the best players in Europe are not chess professionals, but have other and more serious avocations, the interests of which forbid such an expenditure of time as is required for a voyage to the United States and back again.

FORMATION OF A NEW CHESS CLUB AT MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA.—On Monday evening, pursuant to advertisement in this journal, a meeting of amateurs of the noble game of chess took place at the Argus Hotel. Sir George Stephen, formerly President of the Liverpool Chess Club, was unanimously requested to take the chair. Several members of the old Melbourne Chess Club were in attendance, and a friendly discussion took place upon the comparative desirability of forming a new club, or enlarging the basis of the existing club. All the gentlemen present were unanimously desirous of supporting a chess club; and, eventually, a resolution was passed affirming "the desirability of forming a club to promote the advancement of the study of chess, and of social intercourse amongst the lovers of that intellectual amusement." Sir George Stephen was requested to take the office of president, and, in the most handsome manner, Sir George at once consented. The election of vice-president was postponed. A provisional committee was appointed (Messrs. Heynemann, Flaxman, Wyville, Hamel, and Simons), to draw up rules and regulations, to be submitted to the next meeting of the club. A vote of thanks to the chairman having been carried by acclamation, the meeting adjourned to the following Monday evening. During the evening Sir George Stephen intimated that Professors Wilson and Irving would join the new club; and we trust that we may be enabled to announce in our next issue the permanent institution of a powerful chess association, comprising the principal players in Melbourne and its neighbourhood.—Melbourne Journal.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Chairman of the East India Company has received an intimation that it is the intention of Lord Palmerston's Cabinet to introduce a bill for bringing the administration of India under the direct government of the Queen.

Cadetships in the East India Company's service have been conferred on the son of Sir Hugh Wheeler, K.C.B., who was murdered at Cawnpore, and on the son of Major Burton, who was murdered at Kotah. It is announced that Baron de Brunnow is about to replace Count Chreptowitch as Russian Ambassador at London.

Lord Elcho has given notice of his intention to bring in a bill when Parliament reassembles for the abolition of turnpikes in the Scotch counties. Last year the Government passed an Act for the extinction of the system in Ireland.

Mr. Leonard C. Wyon was on Friday (last week) honoured by the Princess Royal with a final sitting for a medal commemorative of the approaching marriage.

Alderman Finnis, the President of the Indian Relief Fund, has received from the Hon. Charles Murray, her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Teheran, a letter inclosing a bill for £100 as his contribution to the same.

The Lord Chancellor has appointed Henry Harwood, of Boston, in the county of Lincoln, gentleman, to be a Commissioner to administer oaths in the High Court of Chancery in England.

Sir James Brooke, the Rajah of Sarawak, arrived at Southampton on Friday (last week) in the *Nemesis*.

On Friday (last week) Convocation was prorogued: the day fixed for the next meeting is Friday, Feb. 5.

Dr. Bayford, it is stated, will be appointed Registrar, or Chief Registrar, of the Court of Probate.

The *Colossus*, 80, screw-steamer, is expected to be completed early in February: she is intended for the steam reserve.

The Jeufosse trial in France has ended with a verdict of acquittal for all the accused.

Two men were killed on Friday (last week) by an explosion of firedamp in a coal-pit at Stainborough, in Lancashire.

A memorial has been transmitted to Lord Palmerston praying that in his coming Reform Bill he will make provision for granting the suffrage to certain classes of the community who may be in a fit state to receive it by virtue of their educational requirements.

A convention between France and Spain relative to the right of fishing in the Bidasoa is about to be signed.

A tablet to the memory of Emanuel Swedenborg was erected on the 8th inst. in the Swedish Protestant Church, Princes-square, Rat-cliff-highway, in which he was buried eighty-five years ago.

The sentence of death passed upon Frances Harris, who was convicted at Winchester of the murder of her child at Portsmouth, has been commuted to penal servitude for life.

Capt. Patey, R.N., has been appointed Admiralty superintendent of mail-packets at Southampton, in the room of Admiral Ramsey, who resigns on account of his having obtained his flag.

A letter from Tiflis announces that the Prince of Souenneti, who murdered Prince Gagarine, was shot at Koutals on the 17th ult., in pursuance of the sentence of the court-martial.

On Thursday week Mr. George Lyall, a director of the Bank of England, was elected member for Whitehaven without opposition.

The French infantry, which for the last quarter of a century has been formed in three lines, will henceforth be formed in two lines.

A despatch from Trieste says that 20,000 men are marching on the Caucasus, to reinforce the corps of General Bariatinski, the Russian commander.

The Russian squadron which has been at Cherbourg since the 5th November left that port last week on its way to the seas of Eastern Asia.

There has been lately formed at the Artillery School in St. Petersburg a model laboratory, in which all the pupils will be required to study the manufacture of all the different articles used in war, such as gunpowder, rockets, &c.

The Valencia papers say that the export of oranges is this season extraordinarily large.

There is to be a bonded warehouse as well as docks at the new seaport of Caen, in Normandy.

A return from the coroners of Ireland since 1846 of all accidents to labourers and others employed in the construction of railroads in Ireland gives 69 as the total number.

There have been 270 notices deposited at the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons for schemes intended to come before Parliament during the ensuing session. Of these it is generally thought, however, that about 100 will not be proceeded with.

The Special Diet of Coburg, in its sitting of the 13th inst., again rejected, by sixteen votes to fifteen, the bill presented by the Government for effecting a union between the Duchies of Coburg and Gotha.

The subject of the poem for which Prince Albert annually gives a gold medal at Cambridge will for the coming year be "Delhi."

There this year appears for the first time in the Budget of the city of Paris the pension of 10,000fr. claimed by M. Gevers, ex-page of the Emperor Napoleon I., who was charged to announce to the Municipal Council the birth of the King of Rome.

It is stated that two more volumes of Lord Macaulay's History, bringing it down to the end of the reign of Queen Anne, are approaching completion; and that they will shortly be published.

The number of patients relieved at the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's-inn-road, last week was 2227, of which 578 were new cases.

The Rev. Lewis Sneyd, M.A., has resigned the wardenship of All Souls' College, Oxford, after holding it thirty years.

Next month the Royal Academy will have to elect a successor among the Forty of the late Mr. Uwins. Among the names mentioned in artistic circles are Messrs. Danby, Poole, and Cooper.

The Cathedral of Berlin, the construction of which is to be shortly resumed, will cost, it is estimated, at least five millions of thalers. The steeple will be higher than the cupola of the Church of St. Peter at Rome.

Dr. Blair, who held the situation of Surgeon-General of British Guiana, died on the 9th of November, and his funeral was a public one, the deceased gentleman being greatly respected.

The affidavits in the case of Kingston and Sadleir have been filed on both sides, and they exceed in extent any that have ever been filed in Ireland in any one case. The affidavits, it is computed, cover 7000 folios.

The *Pharamond* steam-packet, belonging to the Messageries Impériales, is said to have been wrecked on the coast of Roumelia.

A letter from Rhodes, dated the 3rd inst., says—"Pirates have lately been seen among these islands; they usually cruise in the vicinity of Leros, an island about seventy-five miles N.W. of Rhodes."

A letter from St. Petersburg states that there is every reason to expect that the line of telegraph between that capital and the principal towns in the Crimea will be very shortly completed.

Last week the visitors to the South Kensington Museum were on Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday (free days), 2660; on Monday and Tuesday (free evenings), 3767. On the three students' days (admission to the public ed.), 530; one students' evening (Wednesday), 125. Total, 7032.

Arrangements have been made for the continuance of the Sunday Evening Services to the Working Classes at Exeter Hall—the present series expiring to-morrow (Sunday); and the Revs. Dr. Spence, Newman Hall, Macdonald, Katteras, Harrison, and Chalmers, have engaged to preach on the first six Sundays of the new year.

The whole number of Indians within the territorial limits of the United States is stated to be, from the best data, about 325,000.

Mr. Grant Duff was returned on Saturday last for the Elgin burghs without opposition, Sir James Weir Hogg having late on the previous evening retired from the contest.

The deliveries of tea in London for last week were 700,941 lb., which is a decrease of 11,557 lb. compared with the previous statement.

Resolutions were passed at a quarterly meeting of the East India Company, on Wednesday, confirming the pensions to Sir A. Wilson, Lady Neil, and Mrs. Nicholson.

The amount of bills of exchange protested in Hamburg since the commencement of the crisis is estimated at 140 to 150 millions.

Sir Henry Ellis has resigned the office of Director of the Society of Antiquaries, and editor of the society's papers.

MUSIC.

THE performances of ENGLISH OPERA at the LYCEUM terminated on Saturday last with "The Rose of Castille." The house was overflowing; and the last representation of this fine opera was received with as much warmth as the first.

Miss Pyne and Mr. Harrison have put forth a brief address to the public on the occasion of the conclusion of their first season, in which they fairly but modestly claim credit for what they have done, and give some intimation of what they contemplate. They disclaim all participation in the absurd complaint that British talent is neglected by the public; and speak with liberality and good feeling of their foreign competitors.

Far be it from either of us (they say) to join the senseless cry of want of patronage to native talent. Far, indeed, is it from our thoughts to begrudge one single cheer of the applause bestowed by a discriminating British public upon the admirable artists collected at such cost, and with such pains, from every nation upon earth, to sing at our Italian theatres. There is abundant room for all of us; and your kind patronage, for which we are now thanking you, proves that the English people will support their countrymen and countrywomen in any well-meant endeavour to set on foot an opera in a language all can understand, and at prices all can pay.

Of what they have done they speak simply and truly:—

Of the past season little need be said. In commencing our undertaking, it was our determination to present each opera with all the completeness of detail in every respect which it was possible to attain. This determination we have, to the very best of our ability, honestly carried out; and for the ready and willing assistance rendered us in this undertaking we here publicly tender our heartiest thanks to every individual member of the company, from the highest to the lowest.

In regard to the future, after mentioning that their tenancy of the Lyceum has expired, and that they intend to go for a time to the provinces, they add:—

We trust that we may soon return to London, and establish an English opera upon a more permanent footing. Your generous support emboldens us to hope that the Pyne and Harrison English Opera Company has made a "name;" all it requires now is a "local habitation." Negotiations are pending, by which we trust that a "local habitation" will be secured for us; so that, though we are now reluctantly compelled to say farewell, we are encouraged by the feeling that we may add, "au revoir."

It is understood that the "local habitation" here alluded to is Drury Lane; and we have heard that the negotiations stated to be pending are with the present lessee of that theatre. They express their desire to produce original operas written in the English language for English singers, and for this purpose they invite the aid of our native composers. They mention an American opera, written expressly for them by Mr. Bristow, which has had an enthusiastic reception in the United States, and which would have been produced this season had not the unprecedented success of Mr. Balfe's opera prevented it; but, they add, "next season we hope the verdict of a London audience may confirm that of the young, vigorous, and generous nation amidst which the opera in question first saw the light." They further announce, with an expression of gratitude for the high honour conferred upon them, that they have been commanded to represent "The Rose of Castille" at Her Majesty's Theatre on the occasion of the celebration of the marriage of her Royal Highness the Princess Royal.

We take our leave for the present of Miss Pyne and Mr. Harrison, with our cordial wishes for their continued success in their spirited endeavour to establish once more a national opera in this country.

THE Christmas performances of "The Messiah," which we noticed last week, have been repeated during the present week at St. Martin's Hall on Monday, and at Exeter Hall on Wednesday, drawing immense audiences to both places. At St. Martin's Hall Miss Kemble strengthened the favourable impression created by her debut. Being less under the influence of nervous timidity, she exhibited greater vocal power and greater firmness and decision of manner; and she left no doubt on the minds of the audience that she is destined to become an artist of a very high order.

On Tuesday evening Mr. Henry Leslie's Choir gave a performance at St. Martin's Hall, which was crowded to the doors—a proof that the taste for the pure and classical music which they sing is rapidly increasing. The selection, as usual, consisted of English madrigals, glees, and part-songs, by the greatest old and modern composers, which were received with enthusiastic applause, and several of them vehemently encored. Miss Arabella Goddard's superb performances on the pianoforte formed a most agreeable feature of the entertainment.

MISS FREETH'S SOIREE MUSICALE.—Miss Freeth gave her first soiree at her residence on Friday, the 18th inst. In this young lady we recognise the union of qualities unhappily seldom united—taste and perfect execution. Any connoisseur who had heard the admirable rendering of Beethoven's sonata (Op. 109) could not have doubted the existence of these qualities in a performer who could give so finished and still so simple a reading of that abstruse composition. In Mendelssohn's celebrated trio in D minor, the third and fourth movements were taken with an accuracy and delicacy that would be difficult to surpass. Miss Freeth was here assisted by M.M. Santon and Laques, whose talents are too well appreciated to require praise. After being satisfied with Miss Freeth's thorough appreciation of Mendelssohn and Beethoven, we listened with pleasure to her brilliant and striking performance of Prudent's "Lucia." An agreeable feature in the programme was Herr Oberthur's duet for harp and pianoforte on airs from "La Traviata." This charming arrangement is sure to become a general favourite.

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

SLEEP ON! Song; the poetry by GEORGE HODDER; the music by E. SILAS. Cramer, Beale, and Co.—M. Silas has distinguished himself by many excellent compositions, both vocal and instrumental. This song is worthy of his name. Mr. Hodder's verses, though not remarkable for novelty of thought, are smooth, flowing, and well suited to the very beautiful and expressive melody to which the composer has united them.

HAVELOCK TO HIS WARRIOR BAND. Words by D. M. AIRD; music by T. BROWNE. H. Bale.—This is one of the numerous patriotic effusions to which the recent stirring events in India have given rise. Mr. Aird's poetry has energy and fire; and Mr. Browne's air, in the key of D minor, and in the rhythm of a military march, is characteristic and spirited. It is proper to add that the profits from the publication of this song are devoted to the fund for relief of the sufferers by the Indian mutiny.

INDIA: The People's Polka. By ELLEN GLASSCOCK. Addison and Co.—This is a very pretty polka, much superior to the common run of this kind of music. In addition to its intrinsic merit, it has the further recommendation that the profits from its publication are to be given to the Indian Relief Fund.

DOWN BY THE GREEN MEADOWS. Sung by Miss Poole. The music by E. J. HOLMAN. Salter.—This graceful little song is in the genuine English ballad style, and reminds us of Arne and Shield. It has some resemblance to the pretty little song in "Rosina," "When William, at eve, met me down at the stile;" but the likeness is not so great as to justify any charge of plagiarism. It is one of those things which are so charmingly warbled by Miss Poole, the last of the true English ballad-singers.

THE THEATRES, &c.

CHRISTMAS BURLESQUES AND PANTOMIMES.

WHATEVER may have been during the year the fortunes of the theatre or of the country, those of the former commence a new life at this season. Boxing-night, so favourable to managers, occurs this year after our day of publication, the last of the week. Our appearance will only just precede that of the pantomimes and burlesques in which the present Christmas rejoices. We shall, therefore, reserve our full account of the performances until our next issue, contenting ourselves with a brief indication of the different entertainments of the evening, as some guide for the amusement-seeker, previous to actual experience of the fare that has been, we have no doubt, so ably provided at the different theatrical establishments in the metropolis.

Compelled by custom, we begin with DRURY LANE, where Mr. E. L. Blanchard, as usual, treats the public with a pantomime, of which the opening is carefully and intelligently written, and the plot has a distinct moral purpose. Its title is "Little Jack Horner; or, Harlequin A B C"—and its theme is the victory progressively won

by Intelligence over Ignorance. The difficulties of the Alphabet, the Spelling-book, the Multiplication Table, Arithmetic in general, Writing, Grammar, Geography, Mathematics, Algebra, all yield before the magic sword of Perseverance. Jack is plunged into the depths of the sea; but there the electric cable exists for his instruction and a coral cave built by Imagination is edified for his comfort, in which the transformations take place. The comic business is confined to the old favourites—Boleyn, Flexmore, Barnes, Milano, the Elliott family, Madame Boleno, Miss Rosina Wright, and Madame Aniel. Mr. W. Heverley has been the scene-painter; and Wyk-wynkyn the marvellous mask-inventor. The theatre has been entirely redecorated.

Next in order is the HAYMARKET. Mr. Buckstone has selected for his subject "The Sleeping Beauty in the Wood." Here we have the old machinery of Spiteful and Kindly Fairies, and the triumph of the benevolent over the malevolent. A good old moral this, illustrated anew. Mr. William Calcott has, we are told, painted some delicious scenery. The *Sleeping Beauty* will be impersonated by Louisa Leclercq; Arthur and Charles Leclercq are *Pantomime and Clown*; Fanny Wright is at once *Friendly Fairy and Columbine*; and Mackay *Pantoloon*.

The burlesque-cum-pantomime of the LYCEUM, on the subject of "Lalla Rookh," perhaps excites most expectation, and is distinguished from the rest by being produced on Christmas-eve, thus anticipating the verdict on its competitors. It is stated to excel in scenery, decorations, and mechanical effects. Mr. William Brough is the author of the burlesque introduction; and Mr. Penion the painter of the scenic illustrations. The whole is conceived in the spirit of Eastern magnificence, and aims at the gorgeous and the poetically fanciful. *Lalla Rookh* is supported by Mrs. Dillon; *Indradene*, by Mr. S. Calbaem; *King Arimasee*, the Fire-worshipper, Mr. Barratt; another of the same creed, *Khorsanbad*, Mr. J. L. Toole; the Ghebrichief, *Hafel*, Mrs. B. White; and the troubadour, *Peromozo*, Miss Woolgar. The transformation scene exceeds in beauty even that of last year. It represents the Alcove of the Gardens of the Peri, with the Golden Corridors of the Aerial Amphitheatre. Tom Matthews and Mr. Stilt are the *Clowns*, Mr. Rickatts the *Harlequin*, Mr. A. Stilt the *Pantoloon*, and Adelaide Malcolm and Marian Lees the *Columbines*.

THE PRINCESS will illustrate, in its usual splendid manner, the old fable of "The White Cat; or, the Princess Blanchefleur and her Four Godmothers." Much mechanical skill is exerted in the metamorphosis of the King into the *Rat*, and the Princess and her six attendants into white cats. Miss Caroline Adams will be the *Columbine*; Mr. Cormack, the *Harlequin*; Mr. Paulo, the *Pantoloon*; and M. Huine, the *Clown*. The scenery, by Grieve, and the machinery, by Bradwell, are reported to be both beautiful and novel.

THE ADELPHI presents "The Loves of Cupid and Psyche," as interpreted by Mr. Charles Selby—Miss Maria Wilton being both *Cupid and Harlequin*; Miss Mary Keeley being *Psyche and Columbine*; Mrs. Billington, *Venus*; and Paul Bedford, *Jupiter*.

Mr. Robert Brough provides for the OLYMPIC an original subject, under the title of "The Doge of Duralto; or the Enchanted Eyes." These eyes shed tears of real pearl; and the Doge, the father of their possessor, like another Daddy Hardacre, and personified by Robson, most aviciously and cruelly provokes the sorrow that is so rich in its result.

SADLER'S WELLS takes for its theme "Beauty and the Beast," and this year pays great attention to its scenery, which is by Mr. Charles Stanfield James, and is reported to be of unusual magnificence. Nicole Deulin is *Clown*, and Naylor *Pantoloon*.

Mr. Nelson Lee has also provided pantomimes for three theatres besides his own—"Queen Mab; or, Harlequin Romeo and Juliet," for the SURREY; "Don Quixote and his Mare Rosinante," for ASTLEY'S; and "Joe Miller," for the MARLBOROUGH. The subject of "King Rufus" is elected for the CITY OF LONDON.

THE STANDARD rejoices in a subject fresh from the nursery—"Georgy Porgy, Pudding and Pie; or, Harlequin Daddy Longlegs." The transformation scene is described as something astonishing; and, with Mr. Douglass's known liberality, is, no doubt, a really magnificent spectacle.

STANDARD.—On Tuesday Herr Nedden undertook the difficult task, for which he stood engaged, according to previous announcement, namely, that of a German performing Shakespeare's *Othello* to an English audience. Herr Nedden, however, had good grounds for his confidence in the extraordinary facility with which he has taught himself to pronounce English. During the whole of the first two acts his utterance was unobjectionable, and his elocution uniformly accurate and impressive; it was not until the third act that the invariable passion of the scene made him, in two or three instances, betray his nationality. But these were soon followed by a fine delivery of the more poetical passages, that the slight faults to which we have alluded were amply redeemed. They commanded spontaneous applause. His performance was distinguished by a prevailing tenderness, a constant courtesy, and an occasional pathos that found its way to the affections. His delivery of the speech touching the Egyptian who wrought the handkerchief was beautifully enunciated—with a passionate expression, indeed, not common on our stage, and certain novel by-play which was very expressive and effective. Altogether, as a first appearance, the debut was of extraordinary merit, and displayed an amount of intelligence and self-command seldom witnessed. At the fall of the curtain he was summoned by the audience, and received the usual signs of approbation in behalf of the interesting experiment which he had so successfully carried through.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—M. JULLIEN'S BAL MASQUE.—The second bal masqué of the season was given on Monday evening at Her Majesty's Theatre by the enterprising M. Jullien, with the same tasteful decorations, embellishments, and extra lighting as on the former occasion.

THE WEATHER.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE CAMBRIDGE OBSERVATORY, FROM DEC. 17 TO DEC. 22, 1857.

Day	Barometer at 9 A.M. Sea-level reduced to mean of day, and corrected for temperature.	Highest Temperature.	Lowest Temperature.	Average Mean Temperature.	Dry Bulb.			Wet Bulb.			Direction of Wind.	Amount of Cloud (0-10).	Rain in inches.
					9 A.M.	3 P.M.	Mean	9 A.M.	3 P.M.	Mean			
Dec. 17	30.157	52.9	42.1	49.5	49.6	48.7	49.2	52.5	49.8	49.8	SW.	8	0.017
" 18	30.157	50.0	40.7	45.4	48.1	48.4	48.0	47.4	45.2	46.3	S.	4	0.010
" 19	30.065	45.2	36.4	41.4	38.6	38.8	38.7	44.8	42.0	39.4	SW. W.	0	0.000
" 20	30.074	45.7	28.9	38.9	36.3	35.5	35.9	44.2	43.3	43.8	S. W.	10	0.005
" 21	30.067	52.8	34.0	46.6	46.6	45.4	46.0	48.7	48.7	48.7	SW.	10	0.000
" 22	30.040	54.2	33.6	48.8	49.6	47.2	48.4	50.6	49.6	49.6	SW.	10	0.000
Means	30.061	50.1	37.1	45.6	45.2	43.9	44.9	46.6	46.6	46.6			0.112

The range of temperature during the week was 25.3 deg.

The sky was beautifully clear throughout the day and night of the 19th and day of the 18th but has since been much overcast. It was freezing hard during the night of the 19th, and on the following morning the ground was covered with a thick hoar frost. On the forenoon of the 20th the weather suddenly changed, and it was raining during the afternoon and at night. A little rain likewise fell on the night of the 17th. The wind has generally been blowing freshly, and was very violent on the nights of the 20th, 21st, and 22nd. Auroral light was noticed on the evening of the 17th, and a few meteors have been seen on the clear nights.

J. BREEN.

A WORLD FOR CHRISTMAS.—Mr. Betts, the map publisher, of the Strand, has lately patented what he terms a "portable globe," which, however, scarcely conveys an idea of the extreme convenience, as well as beauty, of this mode of rendering young folks familiar with geography. The globe consists of a framework of steel wire, four feet in circumference, covered with cloth, on which is printed a map of the world. By a very simple contrivance the globe can be expanded or collapsed in a few seconds, when it fits itself with air, so to speak, by the same means as putting up a parasol; and when expanded the globe may be said to resemble two expanded parasols, or hemispheres, combined. The filled globe can be suspended by a cord, the top end of the axis being furnished with a ring. The cloth globe is printed with varnish colours, and is durable. When not in use it may be let down, parasol-like, and deposited in a box or case. This new globe is inexpensive, and is one of the most novel and rational gifts we have seen for this holiday season.

FOUNDATION OF AN INFANT SCHOOL-ROOM AT SHOREDITCH.—On Tuesday the foundation-stone of a new infant school was laid by Dr. Lushington, at Weymouth-terrace, Hackney-road. The building is intended to accommodate 200 infant children—a large school-room being already provided for boys and girls.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

A XUMOUR—for which we are in no way responsible—that the late Mr. Croker has not left any Diaries behind him is untrue. His Diaries are very numerous—full, regularly kept; and, we are assured (what we did not require to be assured of), full of mysteries of State, and matters of moment in politics and literature. When the public is likely to see any portion of these memoirs left in MS. Mr. Croker's executors have not yet decided.

Mr. John Hughes is just dead. He was the son of old Mr. Hughes, long the Canon Residentiary of St. Paul's, and of good Mrs. Hughes, known to every reader of Lockhart's "Life of Sir Walter Scott," and of the "Life of Southey," by his son. Sir Walter has introduced his name into the notes on "Quentin Durward;" and but a week before he died he had published a new and greatly-enlarged edition of the Boscobel Tracts relating to the Escape of King Charles II. after the Battle of Worcester. Recent magazine readers will remember him as Buller of Brasenose; and readers of a remoter date will remember the publication of his famous song "The Small Coal Man," an attack on Lord Durham, long attributed to both Theodore Hook and Mr. Barham (Ingoldsby), and worthy of either.

The Hagarths belonging to the late Mr. Willett, which we alluded to last week as being likely to come into the market, are now the property of Mrs. Willett Adye, of Merly House, Dorset, and we are authorised to state that they are not to be sold.

The fine library of Bliss, of Oxford, will pass ere lilac-tide is over under the hammer of Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson. Among the papers of the editor of the *Athenaeum*, and of Bodley's librarian, was found a note from which the following is an extract:—

Let my books and MSS. be collected from my house, the registrar's office, the room used by me as keeper of the archives in the Clarendon, and sent to Sotheby's—better write to him to send cases and bags, and a very careful man to pack them.

The two partners will do their best for one of their oldest customers, one of more than fifty years' standing, for I first sold a parcel of books with Sotheby's grandfather in 1805.

Rely upon it—old friend now no more, of whose fine old University port we have partaken many years ago—the two partners in Wellington-street will do their very best, and yet not serve you better than they serve all their customers.

The Jerrold "In Memoriam" money—the noblest tribute of respect raised by authors to a brother author—is sufficient to secure an annuity, we are told, of £120 a year for Mrs. Jerrold and her unmarried daughter, and the survivor of the two.

Sir Henry Ellis has resigned his post as Director of the Society of Antiquaries of London. This he has done from age alone; and what Sir Henry's age is we may gather from the fact that he has been fifty-one years a Fellow of the society. The appointment of Sir Henry's successor is a matter for grave consideration among the Fellows. In our time we have had able directors—J. H. Markland, Gage Roke-wode, Albert Way, John Payne Collier, and Sir Henry Ellis. The post is one which should be filled by a young, an active, and an unknown man. Young Mr. Franks, of the British Department of the British Museum, is a favourite, and in nomination. He is able and energetic, and with able friends, we are told, to back him. We wish the society may select for an honorary office so clever a man; and more—that Mr. Franks will accept the office. If elected, Mr. Franks, we hope, will not carry us too frequently among pots and pans, and glass beads and celts, but allow his intimate knowledge of mediæval times and manners to colour and promote the best interests of the society. The noble President (Lord Stanhope) will see too, we are sure, that the society does not lose in its English historical papers adapted to the Archaeologia, and to works not less instructive but still more entertaining.

The prince of newspaper correspondents—the Crimean correspondent of the *Times*—Mr. W. H. Russell, starts for the East on the very day this paper appears, to represent Printing-house-square in the great territory of India Proper. He is to proceed, at Lord Peterborough's speed, first for Calcutta and then for the very heart of the seat of war. His letters will be looked for with great interest. He carries with him the heartiest good wishes of all literary men. Let him keep his health, and happiness and honours must await him. But the fight may be over by the time he reaches the seat of war. Let us remember that soldiers only make risings and riots; Generals and Colonels make rebellions.

Our "Talk" of next week will turn naturally with the year itself, on the prospects of the year in the influential worlds of English literature and English art.

TESTIMONIAL TO G. W. MARTIN, ESQ.—On the 14th instant Mr. G. W. Martin was presented by the students of the Metropolitan College, Highbury, with a handsome silver inkstand, engraved with a suitable inscription, as a token of esteem and gratitude for his eminent abilities and valuable services rendered to them on all occasions of the five years and a half during which he was professor of music to that institution.

A NEW CHRISTMAS DISH, of very tasteful description, has just been designed and modelled by the artists of Messrs. Minton and Co.'s establishment at Stoke-upon-Trent. The centre is green, with mistletoe in sunk pattern, and encircled with a very neat ornament; the outer part consisting of leaves and berries of holly, very nicely modelled, and laid upon a sort of rustic trellis border. This is a very characteristic work, as well as a very acceptable Christmas novelty.

A very splendid meteor was seen in most parts of England (according to numbers of letters in the papers) on the evening of Wednesday week. On the following morning, also, a luminous phenomenon of a most extraordinary sort was observed in all the northern parts of Belgium.

GLASGOW CATHEDRAL.

THIS ancient edifice, the only great ecclesiastical building in Scotland which escaped the demolishing fury of the followers of John Knox, is so graphically described in "Rob Roy" that its venerable aisles and superb crypt must be familiar to the English reader. Though saved by the Glasgow craftsmen from the hammers of the Reformers it has, for ages, been suffering from a more insidious but equally sure process of destruction, earth and rubbish being allowed to collect to the depth of several feet over portions of the pavement, and indiscriminate burials and damp were fast telling on the structure, when about sixty years ago it was subjected to a new danger. The choir was fitted up as a Presbyterian place of worship. Heavy wooden galleries were introduced over the side aisles, constructed in such a manner as to throw their whole weight horizontally against the outer walls and columns of the choir, which were, accordingly, greatly bulged, to the extreme peril of the entire building. The chancel arch was built up with rubble masonry, and the whole surface of the fine ashlar walls, and even the beautifully-carved capitals of the columns, were covered and hidden with plaster.

Recently the wealthy and enterprising Corporation of Glasgow, assisted by Government, have made a clean sweep of these vandalism: the central arch is cleared, which opens up the fine vista of the Cathedral, the plaster has been removed from the face of the walls, and the galleries have been replaced with appropriate stalls and benches; the new pulpit derives interest from being made of oak at least 700 years old, taken from some of the original roof beams which it became necessary to remove in the course of the operations.

We understand that Mr. Matheson, architect of her Majesty's Board of Works for Scotland, was the gentleman employed in these recent restorations. Strong efforts are being made to insert a new window in the eastern end; and we believe upwards of £500 has been subscribed towards it.



GLASGOW CATHEDRAL. RESTORED. SEE PRECEDING PAGE.

TRANSATLANTIC SKETCHES.—THE BROADWAY BY NIGHT.

NEW YORK, Dec. 1, 1857.

"I ENVY you your trip to America," said mine urbane and friendly host at Liverpool as, two months ago, he took leave of me at his door, and wished me a safe and speedy passage across the Atlantic. There seemed to be nothing very enviable in the matter, for the wind had been howling all the night, the mercury in the glass was falling, the rain was beating against the windows, and the prospects of the voyage, all things considered, seemed the reverse of agreeable.

"And why?" said I, with a faint and, doubtless, unsuccessful attempt to look comfortable and happy.

"Because," replied he, his joyous features beaming out into a still greater refulgence of smiles than they had previously worn, "you will get such delicious oysters! New York beats all creation for oysters."

Mine host spake the truth. There is no place in the world where there are such fine oysters as in this city—fine in flavour, and of a size unparalleled in the oyster-beds of Whitsable, Ostend, or the Rocher de Caucale. Nor has the gift of oysters been bestowed upon an ungrateful people. If one may judge from appearances, the delicacy is highly relished and esteemed by all classes, from the millionaire in the Fifth Avenue to the Boy in the Bowery and the German and Irish emigrants in their own peculiar quarters of the city, which (*soit dit en passant*) seem to monopolise all the filth to be found in Manhattan. In walking up Broadway by day or by night—but more especially by night—the stranger cannot but be struck by the great number of "Oyster Saloons," "Oyster and Coffee Saloons," and "Oyster and Lager Beer Saloons" that solicit him at every turn to stop and taste. These saloons—many of them very handsomely fitted up—are, like the drinking saloons in Germany, situated in vaults or cellars, with steps from the street; but, unlike their German models, they often form them in underground stories of stately commercial palaces of granite, brown stone, iron, and white marble. In these palaces, as in the hotels, oysters are to be had at all hours, either from the shell, as they are commonly eaten in England, or cooked in twenty—or, for all I know to the contrary, in forty or a hundred—different ways. Oysters pickled, stewed, baked, roasted, fried, and scolloped; oysters made into soups, patties, and puddings; oysters with condiments and without condiments; oysters for breakfast, dinner, and supper; oysters without stint or limit—fresh as the fresh air, and almost as abundant—are daily offered to the palates of the Manhattanese, and appreciated with all the gratitude which such a bounty of nature ought to inspire. The shore of Long Island, fronting the Long Island Sound, for one hundred and fifteen miles, is one long succession of oyster-beds. Southwards, along the coast of New Jersey, and northwards and eastwards to Rhode Island and Massachusetts, the same delicacies abound, and foster a large and very lucrative commerce. In City Island, adjoining Long Island Sound, the whole population, consisting of 400 persons, is employed in the cultivation of oysters. The City Islanders are represented as a very honest, peculiar, and primitive community, who intermarry entirely among themselves, and drive a very flourishing business. The oyster which they rear is a particular favourite. Other esteemed varieties come from Shrewsbury, Cow Bay, Oyster Bay, Rock Bay, Saddle Rock, Virginia Bay, and Spuyten Duyvel. This last-mentioned place is in the East River, near the Long Island Sound, and derives its name from the original Dutch settlers of New Amsterdam, in the days of Knickerbocker. It is related of an English Earl, not long ago a visitor to the States, that his great delight was to wander up and down Broadway at night, and visit all the principal oyster saloons in succession, regaling himself upon fried oysters at one place, upon stewed oysters at another, upon roasted oysters at a third, and winding up the evening by a dish of oysters à l'Anglaise. As nearly all the theatres are in Broadway, the Broadway oyster saloons command at night a traffic even larger than by day. "*Fruges consumere nati*" may designate humanity elsewhere, but here the quotation is out of place, and man is born to consume "oysters."

Seated in one of these saloons, and amused at the satisfaction with which a company of Germans were consuming pickled oysters, and inhaling the *Lager beer*, which the United States owe to the German immigration, I heard a sudden rush and rumble in Broadway. "What is the matter?" said I. "Only a fire," replied an American friend; "but don't move. Nobody thinks anything about fires here. If your own walls are heated by a conflagration next door you may bestir yourself, but not till then."

"But I should like to see the firemen."

"They are an institution in America, and if you have not seen them we will go round to their bunk-rooms."

"Bunk-rooms?" I inquired suggestively, for the word was new to me.

"Yes, bunk-rooms, where they bunk together."

"Bunk together?"

"Yes, bunk, sleep, chum, live together in their bunk-rooms."

We emerged into Broadway. But there was no fire. It was only a procession of firemen, with their engines (or engines as the word is generally pronounced), their ladders, and their hooks. Thousands of peoples lined both sides of the Broadway. It was a lovely night, clear, crisp, and cold, and the rays of the moon fell upon the white marble edifices with a brilliancy as if they had fallen upon icebergs or the snowy summits of hills. Every object was sharp and distinct; and the white spire of Grace Church, nearly two miles distant, stood out in bold relief against the blue sky, as well defined in all its elegant tracery as if it had not been more than a hundred yards off. It was a grand "turn out" of the firemen. Each company had its favourite engine, of which it is as fond as a captain of his ship, gaily ornamented with ribbons, flags, streamers, and flowers, and preceded by a band of music. Each engine was dragged along the streets by the firemen in their peculiar costume—dark pantaloons, with leathern belt around the waist, large boots, a thick red shirt, with no coat or vest, and the ordinary fireman's helmet. Each man held the rope of the engine in one hand, and a blazing torch in the other. The sight

was peculiarly impressive and picturesque, and would have afforded an admirable subject for the facile pencil and brilliant imagination of John Gilbert. I counted no less than twenty different companies, twenty engines, and twenty bands of music—the whole procession taking upwards of an hour to pass the point at which I stood. The occasion of the gathering was to receive a fire company on its return from a complimentary visit to another fire company in the adjoining Republic of Rhode Island, a hundred miles off. Such interchanges of civility and courtesy are common among the firemen, who incur very considerable expense in making them, and present each other with testimonials of regard and esteem, in the shape of silver claret-jugs, candelabra, tea services, &c. But the peculiarities of the firemen, the constitution of their companies, the life they lead, and their influence in the local politics and government of the great cities of the Union, are quite a feature in American civic life totally different from anything that we have in England, and so curious in every way as to deserve more elaborate consideration than the limits of the present letter will allow.

My present purpose is with the night aspects of Broadway—a street that quite as much as any street in London or Paris affords materials for the study of life and character. In one respect it is superior to the streets of London. Being the main artery of a great and populous capital, it may be supposed that Vice reigns rampant within it as soon as night has darkened. But, whatever may be the amount of licentiousness in the city, it does not expose itself to public view in the open, glaring, unblushing, brazen, and disgusting manner in which Londoners behold it in the Haymarket, Piccadilly, Regent-street, and the Strand. I do not speak of its hidden vice; but, as regards the public exhibition of it, New York is infinitely more modest than London, and almost as modest as Paris. We know, however, that the outside appearance of Paris is but hypocrisy, and a cloak to vice more shameless or shameful than anything of which London has ever been guilty; and perhaps the same can be said of New York. However, upon this point I forbear to dwell; and simply record the fact that, to all outward appearance, New York is much more decent than London.

A few nights after the torchlight procession of the firemen, when making my way from the Astor House to the St. Nicholas, in the midst of thick drizzling rain, I was somewhat surprised to see a shower of rockets and blue lights shot from the middle of the street, and to hear a confused war of shouting voices, the blasts of trumpets, and the beat of drums. But the grand majestic roar of the multitude—the grandest sound in nature—predominated above all other noises. The Broadway was impassable. All the omnibuses had turned out of their usual track, and were making their way as well as they could by the by-streets and parallel avenues to their several points of arrival and departure. Had such a gathering been permitted in the streets of London by night, there would have been fears for the safety of the Bank of England and the Mint; and, had it occurred in the streets of Paris, the Empire would have stood a chance of once more giving way to a Republic or some other form of government; but in New York—where there is scarcely a policeman to be seen—it seemed to excite no alarm, but considerable curiosity. As I pushed or insinuated myself as well as I could through the dense mass, the rockets kept pouring up to the sky in more rapid succession; the uproar of the people's voices swelled louder and louder; and when I came within one hundred yards of the hotel—the St. Nicholas—I found that that building was the very point of attraction, and that an excited orator was addressing a still more excited auditory from its balcony. Thickly scattered among the multitude were grimy fellows in their shirt-sleeves, who held aloft blazing torches, and, at each rounded period of the orator's address, waved them in the air, and signalled the crowd to cheer, shout, and huzza. I could not obtain admission into my own abode for the pressure of the multitude, but, after a quarter of an hour, succeeded in getting ingress by the back door. Making my way to the balcony, I discovered that the speaker was the Mayor of New York, who was addressing his constituents at that late hour—nearly eleven o'clock—and soliciting at their hands the honour of re-election to the mayoralty. That upturned sea of human faces, heedless of the rain that beat down upon them, eagerly intent upon the hard words that the Mayor was launching against his political opponents—the moving, excited, surging, roaring mass, irradiated as it swayed to and fro by the gleam and glare of hundreds of torches wildly waved in the air—formed a most picturesque spectacle.

The Mayor had been accused by his opponents in the press, and at public meetings, of every crime, public and private, which it was possible for a man to commit short of murder, and in terms so gross and open that the horsehair wig of any Judge in England might have stood on end with surprise at the audacity of the libels, if brought under his cognisance for trial; but the Mayor, unabashed and undismayed, seemed to consider the charges against his character as the ordinary tactics of party strife, and contented himself with simple retaliation, and the use of the broadest, most vernacular *tu quoque* which it was possible to apply. I could not help expressing my fears that, if the police were not requisite in such a meeting, the firemen speedily would be, either from the effects of the rockets and Roman candles, or from those of the torches. But no harm came of the demonstration; and a dozen or twenty similar meetings by torchlight have since been held by the Mayor, and his rival in other parts of the city. Surely a population amongst whom such mighty saturnalia are possible without a general assault upon all the shops and stores in the city has an innate respect for the laws of *meum and tuum*? But politics are the life of this people. Every man is a voter; and every officer, general or local, President, Governor, Mayor, Alderman, City or State Treasurer, the officers of the Militia, even the firemen, are elected by universal suffrage and the ballot-box.

But with all this respect for property—if these midnight and torchlight meetings of an excited multitude in one of the richest streets in the world prove, as they seem to do, the inherent peaceableness and respect for law of the citizens—New York is not a city where either life or property is very secure. The daily journals teem with accounts of murder, robbery, and outrage; and this morning one of the most influential papers asserts in its most prominent leading article that during the past three years New York has been sinking in the scale of public respectability; that citizens resort to the expedients of border life, and assume the habits of a semi-barbarous society, for the preservation of their property and the safety of their persons; that ladies are stopped and robbed in the broad light of day; that murderous affrays take place with practical impunity to the perpetrators within reach of the public offices and under the very eye of the chief magistrate of the city; and that decent people go about their daily business armed as if an enemy lurked in every lane and gateway of the streets.

This, it is to be hoped, is an exaggeration, in the interest of the rival candidate for the office of Mayor; but there can, unfortunately, be no doubt that the police of New York is not equal to its duties, and that robberies, accompanied with violence and murder, are of more frequent occurrence here than in any other city in the world of the same size and population. Whether the citizens of New York relish the prospect or not, they will have, ere many years, to increase their taxes and their police force, and regulate it more stringently, if they will not resort, in the last extremity of desperation, to the Californian substitution of a Vigilance Committee.—C. M.

THE METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS AND HER MAJESTY'S CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF WORKS.

ONE of the most important meetings of the Metropolitan Board of Works since it has been in existence was that held lately, when the Board almost unanimously resolved to appeal to their constituency rather than carry the sewage of the metropolis beyond Erith, as proposed by the Government referees;—"they would rather see their functions altogether abrogated than commit so dishonest an act as that of conveying the sewage to Sea Reach at the cost of the ratepayers of the metropolis." We cannot see that the Board could have come to any other conclusion, especially at the present time, when this metropolis is threatened by great and unexpected difficulties; and when, in all probability, we shall have to pass through a period of distress which will weigh heavily on the general body of the ratepayers, and particularly so on the trading community. It behoves us all to look about before we are pledged to any scheme which we are not satisfied will remedy the sanitary evils of which we complain, but which, once embarked in, must be carried out at an enormous cost. The most lucid statement on the subject we have met with, and one we recommend to the serious attention of our readers as embracing the extraordinary difficulties which beset the question, is contained in the following report of Lieut.-Colonel J. P. Kennedy to the Board of Works of the St. Giles's district:—

It is the first duty of a representative to report to his constituents any peril which may threaten the interests confided to his protection, and in this view I feel imperatively bound to lay the following observations before you, that I may discharge my share of the responsibilities heaped upon all those who are associated to administer the Act of 18 and 19 Vict. cap 120, for the better Local Management of the Metropolis.

The preamble to that Act points out that we are not only looked to for the better Local Management of the Metropolis in all its most important sanitary interests and means of intercourse, but likewise in its general improvements, and we are given unlimited powers of levying rates upon the inhabitants to effect the same.

The evil which I apprehend and would arrest, is a large expenditure upon ill-digested and disjointed projects that cannot accomplish the important objects for which they are intended, when half the outlay upon designs selected after a general comparison of the reasonable alternative modes of effecting the required objects would secure undoubted success.

Any estimate of the cost which must attend an efficient discharge of our duties proves that the Government and the Legislature had but an imperfect view of the magnitude of our task, and of the various classes of the empire interested in its execution, when they framed our Act, otherwise they must have appropriated other sources of revenue besides the ordinary levy of rates upon the inhabitants of London, to meet the enormous charges to be incurred.

They must have overlooked the fact that this metropolis is widely different in its circumstances from every other great city in the world.

That it had been allowed to accumulate two-and-a-half millions of inhabitants before any general regulating Act was passed.

That, consequently, our forefathers and predecessors had failed to take the requisite providential progressive steps whilst metropolitan property was yet of moderate value, and before it had been artificially increased in its present manifold ratio.

That it is the principal focus where the commerce of the United Kingdom and of the entire earth is conducted, where the Government and policy of the empire and the relations with foreign countries are carried on; where its laws are framed by Parliament and administered by the Judges of the land; that it is the resort of Foreign ambassadors, and of the nobility, gentry, and land proprietors of every district of the kingdom; that it is the outfall of all the railways in Great Britain.

That a large number of persons who are thus annually deriving profit or enjoyment from the metropolis, crowding its thoroughfares, and therefore acting as a main cause of the expenditure to be incurred for its sanitary and social improvements, are but a fluctuating population, without permanent residence in the metropolis, and in no way chargeable with any portion of the rates levied to defray those costs which they tend to augment.

That from the foregoing united causes the most essential and indispensable improvements at present required in the metropolis to purify the harbour and obtain a sufficient thoroughfare accommodation in our most crowded commercial district, would absorb an outlay which may be estimated at from six to twelve millions of capital, depending upon the principles that may be finally adopted, and exclusive of the cost that may accrue from damage to houses by constructing deep sewers through populous districts, also over and above the regular maintenance of the metropolis in its existing condition.

That the annual rating required to maintain the metropolis as heretofore in these matters now falling under the administration of the Metropolitan Local Management Act—viz., sewage, paving, lighting, cleansing, watering, and general superintendence, may be estimated at about 14d. in the pound rent value of metropolitan premises.

That, assuming the charge for indispensable improvements costing twelve millions to extend equally over six years of time, the additional rating which this levy would impose would be 3s. 4d. in the pound, or double the late War-tax, making a total rating of 4s. 6d. in the pound for the next six years under the Local Management Act, and that an extension of the time of liquidation to the maximum period permitted by the Act, however it may lighten the annual payments, would burden the ratepayers with twenty-four millions instead of twelve millions to meet the expenditure.

That any such preposterous charge would be a gross spoliation, impossible to levy without exciting a most justifiable discontent throughout this loyal metropolis.

That the cost of one average district during the first year of the administration under the New Local Management Act (a year in which there was an unusually large expenditure in renewal of street pavement) appears to range about 11 per cent below the average expenditure of the eight previous years; and assuming that this saving would be general over the metropolis, there would thus be a fund saved by this new administration amounting to about £70,000 a year, equal to about 14d. rate, which could be reasonably made applicable to metropolitan improvements without raising the rates above the average of former years.

That there are certain sources of revenue now existing in the metropolis, which its ratepayers have a right to claim from the Government in diminution of the estimated costs for metropolitan improvements, as imposed upon them by the new act. If the ratepayers of London are to improve the River Thames by intercepting the sewage which pollutes its stream, and by regulating its banks so as to remove the more dangerous source of disease caused by deposits on the exposed margins, they should have the net produce of its harbour fees of every class until that operation is completed.

That if the metropolitan ratepayers be required to repair the streets as they become worn down and damaged by cabs, omnibuses, &c., and to open additional thoroughfares for those vehicles, the net revenue derived from cabs, omnibuses, and other vehicles, should be applied to the construction and repair of the streets required for their accommodation.

That to obtain any comprehensive idea of the subject it is absolutely essential to frame a general project of the most important works required, shewing the alternative modes of execution, with comparative estimates of their respective cost, and the sources from which that cost is to be derived, and thereby securing that the efficiency and fitness of the works themselves to effect in the best modes their respective objects shall be beyond a doubt, and that their cost shall fall upon those who have an equitable right to be charged with its disbursement.

The drainage question is minutely mixed up with that of an enlargement of the thoroughfares. The thoroughfare improvements can only be taken up as a general subject, otherwise much money will be wasted without the best results being at the same time secured.

A vast sacrifice may be incurred to improve a Stamford-street line, and a Thames-street line, and half-a-dozen other lines, which would have been rendered wholly unnecessary by obtaining the required accommodation on Thames embankments, combining the sanitary improvements of the river at the same time. At present the danger of falling into these costly and irremediable errors is imminent, as some Acts of Parliament have already been passed to authorise certain detached works of this class, irrespective of any general comparative project embracing the whole of the subjects.

The Government were right in delaying to confirm the project offered by the Metropolitan Board, for the single project of intercepting the sewage. The Government precaution in this respect has produced much valuable information. It has shown likewise that Mr. Baziegette's general principles, as far as they go, were substantially correct in the opinion of the scientific critics to whom his report was referred. Those gentlemen do not hesitate to adopt his principles, although they advise certain modifications in detail, which, in my opinion, would be most injurious.

It is worthy of remark, too, that the referees have not thought it necessary either to deny or to sustain the principle contained in the following most important statement of Mr. Baziegette:—"Whilst, therefore, I again submit the plans and estimates for a low level sewer, independent of a design for the embankment of the Thames, I beg to state that a large amount of risk and capital may be saved by executing the low level sewer in conjunction with an embankment along the north bank of the Thames, and the execution of both these works is essential to the full attainment of the object desired. It would, therefore, in my judgment, be desirable so to arrange the execution of this line of sewer as to enable it to be constructed with the Thames embankment."

The evidence given in the Appendix to the Referees' Report confirms this strong opinion of Mr. Baziegette, and yet the referees slur over the subject with the following observation:—"We may take this opportunity of observing that the necessity for constructing a new level sewer in the bed of the Thames has been a favourite argument with those persons who advocate the embankment of the Thames. Without expressing any opinion upon the several schemes for embanking the Thames, we would observe that we do not consider it desirable to add the difficulties and

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FOREST, Walthamstow, near London.—At the General Examination, held December 10th, the following Prizes were awarded:—English—Misses Brown, Cook

MR. COMPTON, AS "TOUCHSTONE."

Mr. HENRY COMPTON, the prince of Shakspearean Clowns, is a native of Huntingdon. He was born in 1818, and commenced his career as clerk in a mercantile office. In early life he was struck with the mimical powers of the clever Mathews in his "At Home" entertainment; and so great an impression did they make upon his youthful mind that he at once selected the stage as a profession. He was fortunate enough to find friends able and willing to push him forward; accordingly, he was educated to the task, and fairly worked through an apprenticeship of his chosen art. He underwent a laborious servitude of ten years in the provinces before he ventured to appear on the London boards. During this long period Mr. Compton played every variety of character, from the humblest walking gentleman or "utility" man, to the highest rôle English comedy affords. He even essayed the tragedian's part; but he soon discovered that his forte was comedy and broad farce. He earned a worthy reputation in this department of the drama many years before he came to London. Although, of course, lacking the style and finish experience has since given, he exhibited from the first those qualities of quaintness and dry humour which still characterise his acting. In the year 1837 Mr. Compton made his first appearance in London as Robin in "The Waterman." This was at the Lyceum Theatre—then known as the English Opera House. The metropolitan public at once indorsed Mr. Compton's provincial reputation. In his peculiar style of acting they discerned the treatment of a true artist. There was a freshness in his voice, a novelty in his style, and even a peculiarity in his look, which pleased the public, and induced it to congratulate itself upon the acquisition of a really valuable comedian; and it was perfectly right in doing so.

A short time afterwards Mr. Compton appeared at Drury Lane Theatre as Master Slender, in Shakspeare's "Merry Wives of Windsor," and, subsequently, as the First Gravedigger, in "Hamlet." In the former character Mr. Compton trod upon new ground, and embodied the spirit of the author so thoroughly that the performance could only be pronounced perfection. It was, however, in the part of the Gravedigger that Mr. Compton gained the greatest amount of public favour. Mr. Charles Kean was then going through a remarkably successful series of Shakspearean characters. "Hamlet" was repeated some twenty or five-and-twenty times—a long run when we consider that the "revival" was unattended by any of the highly-wrought accessories and scenic effects of the present day. Mr. Compton undoubtedly shared the triumph of Mr. Kean; for his assumption of the part of the Gravedigger was a marked event. To a wonderful degree he idealised without for a moment departing from the simple truth of the character. Since this representation Mr. Compton has played the whole of that fine round of characters which are familiar to us as the clowns of Shakspeare. He has made it his especial study to realise this section of our great poet's creations. In many he has shown a decided originality of conception, and in all a marvellous force of dry humour, such as we can imagine Shakspeare himself intended. That his acting is perfectly natural let any one say who have seen his Touchstone, in "As You Like It;" his Autolycus, in the "Winter's Tale;" his Gravedigger, in "Hamlet;" or his Lancelot Gobbo, in "The Merchant of Venice." How exquisitely comic, and yet how perfectly natural, is Com-



MR. COMPTON, OF THE THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET, AS "TOUCHSTONE."

ton's way of falling on his knees before old Gobbo when the latter touches the back of his head, remarking "What a beard the boy has got!" By the action no one could suppose that Lancelot purposely presented the back of his head; the movement is so natural that it appears perfectly unstudied. With another performer in the part we should have seen the action as a trick, and probably have laughed at the buffoonery of it; but not so with Mr. Compton.

Shakspeare has placed some of his finest philosophy in the mouths of his clowns; they are not buffoons, like the clowns of the present day, but philosophers in the guise of dependents or jesters. They are characters requiring the highest histrionic ability to realise. Mediocrity in the actor sinks such parts to the merest insignificance, while the accomplished comedian enters, as it were, into the spirit of his part, and invests the simplest character with the exact force and individuality intended by the author. Mr. Compton has proved himself singularly efficient in this respect.

In broad farce Mr. Compton is dry to a degree. We have seen him in the most ludicrous situations that a man could possibly be placed; we have seen an entire audience in raptures with his apparently unstrained humour, but we have no recollection of having ever seen a smile on his face. There is a class of actors who will themselves laugh to set on some quantity of barren spectators to laugh also, but Mr. Compton does not belong to the fraternity. He gains his effects without straining, and in a perfectly legitimate way. When it is his point to reason, he can reason like a philosopher. On the other hand, when it is his business to look perplexed or stolidly stupid, surely there is no one in the whole universe who can appear more so. Witness his Peter Spike in "The Loan of a Lover." How gloriously dull he is while the young lady strives to bring him round to the passions he so acutely feels! How profoundly ignorant of her meaning he seems when she flatly tells him he ought to espouse some one! Is the man born to stupidity, or is he really playing the part? How comes it that the clown is so provokingly, yet so naturally, dull on a point patent to every one else? The girl spitefully enumerates all his female acquaintances except herself; but he don't see that any one will do: he coolly smokes his pipe, and objects to all, evidently under the impression that he wants nobody and nobody wants him. How amazingly unmoved he seems when she pushes matters still further, and fidgets about his necktie ostensibly to adjust some imaginary disarrangement, but in reality to tempt the man to kiss her! How exquisitely unconscious he appears of an opportunity any one else would die for! We applaud the evident truth of the actor's reading, yet wonder where he could have got his model from. In such characters as these Mr. Compton is inimitable. In other parts his contemporaries have the advantage of him. In drollery of voice and manner Mr. Buckstone is ahead of him. In certain parts assumed by Mr. Compton we prefer the acting of Mr. Charles Mathews, in others we seek the peculiarities of a Harlow, while if grimace, buffoonery, and extempore trick are to be allowed, we can find a better exponent at the Adelphi. Mr. Compton has certainly the fault of mannerism, but it is so rich and so perfectly natural that we should be sorry to lose it.

Since Mr. Compton's long engagement at Drury Lane he has served at the Princess', the Olympic, and the Haymarket Theatres. Here it has been the



CLEMENING. " IN STAFFORDSHIRE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

policy of the respective managers to encourage literary novelty, so that Mr. Compton has had ample opportunities of appearing in original characters. Many of these he has succeeded in stamping upon the public mind.

In private life Mr. Compton enjoys the esteem of a large circle of friends, and behind the curtain he has the reputation of a punctual and conscientious man.

Our portrait is from a photograph by Mayall.

observed. The custom of "Clemening," or "Catharining," is, at any rate, as old as Elizabeth; for when she visited Worcester the inhabitants spared no expense to give her a gracious reception on St. Catharine's-day; and the people further observed the day by stringing apples before the fire, and going with a can from house to house begging apples and beer, and repeating the doggerel lines which have been, more or less, faithfully handed down to us.

In the Church of Rome, St. Catharine is esteemed as the saint and

of this happy season, it affords us much pleasure to find that the gift-books for the present Christmas are led off by a splendid volume, edited by Dr. Charles Mackay, and devoted to *The Home Affections Portrayed by the Poets*. This collection of choice and elegant lyrical and didactic examples of British genius is preceded by some eloquent remarks that are in harmony with those we have just ventured. "The subject of the volume," says the editor, "is Love—the one great affection of the heart that binds the human family together, irrespective of age, sex, or condition; that links the child to the parent, and the parent to the child; that glows in the breast of youth, irradiates the countenance of age, and sheds a divine light on the pathway of man's life, from the cradle to the grave. In the literature of every nation, ancient or modern, whether called by the name of Love or by that of Domestic Affection, this passion plays a prominent part." The work has been compiled from the productions of poets living and dead; but there is a fair proportion of modern bards. Nearly every recent name of any note is to be found in the table of contents, both English and American. There are a hundred authors quoted, and these are illustrated by a hundred engravings beautifully executed by the brothers Dalziel from designs by our best artists, including Millais, Pickersgill, Gilbert, Foster, Weir, and others of deserved popularity. The pieces are very judiciously selected, and the book forms altogether one of the most delicious of poetical anthologies.

A selection of two hundred pieces from the works of the most popular lyric poet of our age—Thomas Moore—with one hundred illustrations, bids fair to be one of our most successful gift-books before us. Among the artists who have combined to produce this highly-acceptable volume are—Cope, Duncan, Birket Foster, Horsley, Macclise, F. R. Pickersgill, Jasper Cropsey, G. Thomas, Topham, H. Warren, and Harrison Weir. We have only space to name a few of the illustrations, which are engraved with great care, especially the landscapes from Birket Foster's pencil. Among the best are—"The Meeting of the Waters" (Foster); a sleeping Cupid, by Macclise; "Love's Young Dream" (Pickersgill); "The Lake of the Dismal Swamp" (Cropsey); "Fly not yet" (Foster); "The Hunter Boy" (Harrison Weir); "The Minstrel" (Macclise); "As slow our ship" (Duncan); "The Woodpecker," and "Sweet Innisfallen" (Foster); "Lesbia" (Topham); "Nights of Music" (Macclise); "The Meeting of the Ships" (Duncan); "Reason, Folly, and Beauty" (G. Thomas); a Twilight (Foster); and "The Castle of Willemberg" (S. Read). The initial letters and ornaments are by Harry Rogers. The renaissance design of the cover is very beautiful.

The errant muse of Edgar Allan Poe is a welcome guest to chequer this banquet of sweets for the season. His mysterious verse, full of saintly and fiend-like imagery, and of "the subtleties of passion, grief, despair, and longing—the productions of one whose religion was a worship of the beautiful, and who knew no beauty but that which was purely sensuous"—have, in the gorgeously-bound volume before us, found highly-artistic illustrators. Their figure-subjects are the creatures of poetry, not conventional commonplaces; and their landscapes, with their solemn gloom and impassioned brilliancy, are not the "drawing-master" compositions which so often disfigure our illustrated books. In Poe's "Raven" the mysticism and black melancholy of the bird are darkened in Mr. Tenniel's four characteristic designs: the raven sitting on the bust of Pallas is, indeed, a dreaming demon—the management of the lights is exquisitely artistic. The Coliseum, by Jasper Cropsey—the crumbling ruin contrasting with the Roman evening—is a picture that woe to lofty contemplation; and the same artist's Ulalume is equally faithful as a picture of black forest gloom and poetic solemnity. Then what a charming contrast have we in the brightness of Birket Foster's July Midnight, with its fountain dancing in the moonbeams, or in his ghost gliding "amid th' entombing trees." Another of Mr. Foster's successes is his moonlit landscape in "The Bells," very nicely engraved; his two scenes in "Annabel Lee" are of almost equal delicacy, and his view of Zante is charmingly effective. Mr. Cropsey's two scenes of "The City in the Sea" are terrible in ruin and desolation. The figures of Mr. Pickersgill in the several groups are full of characteristic force. One of the great charms of the book will be found in the head and tail pieces and initial letters, which display rich and vivid fancy, and complete the illustrative pre-eminence of this beautiful gift-book.

Next to this work we are disposed to place a very charming volume, entitled *Butterflies and their Floral Homes*, accompanied with Butterfly Fables indited by a Dreamer in the Woods. The butterfly fables are poems descriptive of the different sorts, and moralising on their haunts, their habits, and their characteristics. The series of pictures represent these beautiful insects in their various stages, grouped among the plants and flowers on which they feed; each forming a complete composition, richly coloured from nature. There is also a descriptive index, in which the details of each engraving are luminously explained. Many of the embellishments are printed in gold; and there is a gorgeous dedication-page for the name of the person to be honoured with this splendid gift.

Another good book claims also our voluntary commendation; and claims both on the score of its gaiety and gravity. What can be more amusing, and yet more moral, than the *Fables of Aesop*? Now, what have we here, done ready to hand, by Mr. Charles H. Bennett? Why, these very fables, instructive and interesting as they are, "translated into human nature." Between the writer and the artist a rich fund of merriment is provided, which, to the young especially, will be found highly captivating. "The Wolf and the Lamb," "The Frog and the Ox," &c., have here a new reading, which will provoke a wise laughter. Here is a brief specimen:—

THE WOLVES AND THE SICK ASS.

There were certain hungry carrion-hunting Wolves, who, in a quail of wonderful charity, paid a visit to a fat old Ass, who lay ill by a bean-surfet, and was like to die.

"Pray, my good friend," said they, after many protestations of regard, "whereabouts is your greatest pain?"

"Oh, gently! gently!" replied the Ass, as they proceeded to feel his pulse, "for it pricks me just there, where you lay your fingers."

MORAL.—The kindness of a legacy-hunter is apt to be killing.

In the accompanying illustrations the human figure is given with the brutal head, and in most instances the expression is very decided. Some of the compositions are even elaborate, and all of them are funny, clever caricatures. Of these there are twenty-two in number, exclusive of the frontispiece, which represents Man tried at the Court of the Lion for the ill-treatment of a Horse. Man is here seen at a discount, and is fain to be content with the Wolf, the Dog, the Ass, and the Daw for his advocates, while the Horse triumphs in the Shark for his Attorney, and the Fox, the Ape, and the Vulture for his Counsel. Besides these figures we recognise the Rat, Rabbit, Elephant, and Sheep, with certain Birds who have evidently conceived a prejudice against the Defendant; while the Owl, as Clerk of Arraigns, looks through spectacles, and the Bull sleeps during the trial. This is a design of considerable merit, and is executed with much skill.

The next work on our table is a work of exceeding elegance, fanciful in its conception, and faultlessly artistic in execution. It is entitled *Winged Words on Chantrey's Woodcocks*, edited by James Patrick Muirhead, M.A., with etchings. This graceful collection of *jour-d'esprit* originated in an incident connected with the life of Sir Francis Chantrey, the sculptor, who was fond of fishing and shooting. Being in November, 1820, on a visit at Holkham, the seat of Mr. Coke (afterwards Earl of Leicester), and having joined a shooting party, Chantrey had the good fortune, at the very commencement of the day's sport, to kill two woodcocks at one shot. Remarkable as was this occurrence, it appears that there was nothing miraculous in it. Chantrey, at the time of firing, saw, by his own candid account, only one of the two birds—the further one of the couple; but the other rose into the line of fire just as he pulled the trigger, and thus shared the fate of its companion. The achievement, however, became naturally the theme of much congratulation with the sculptor-sportsman and his witty and learned friends, who made it the subject of epigrammatic remark and compliment. The former, indeed, went so far as "to represent, in his own imperishable material, the victims to his feat of arms; and the birds, sculptured by him on their monument at Holkham with the utmost beauty, truth, and tenderness, at the moment and in the attitude of their unlooked-for death, tell their tale in language "quæ, quamquam silet, eloquitur." A chorus of bards also celebrated the wonderful event in the verses which compose the present volume.

FISHER'S PATENT LABEL MANUFACTORY, BOSTON.

We have to notice the invention of a new patent label, which, from its being composed of cloth, is less liable to tear than any of those at present in use. Every one has been inconvenienced, at some period of his life, by the want of a neat, durable card of direction, easily fastened on the traveller's trunk or Christmas hamper. Mr. Fisher, of West-street, Boston, a view of whose establishment we have given in the above Engraving, has removed the difficulty. His labels supply all the deficiencies hitherto existing; and they have the additional advantage over most of those at present in use, that they are so printed as to require but little additional direction to make them useful.

"CLEMENING" IN STAFFORDSHIRE.

Old customs still work in many of our country parishes; and, ere they succumb to the progress of civilisation, it becomes the duty of the journalist to take note of them. We are this day enabled to illustrate one curious custom—that of "Clemening"—which is still observed in many villages of Worcestershire and Staffordshire.

St. Clement's-day falls on the 23rd of November; St. Catharine's on the 25th. The same custom belongs to either day, and is variously observed on the 23rd or 25th in different places. On the former day it is called "Clemening;" on the latter day "Catharining" or "Cattaring." The children go the round of the parish begging apples, but open to receive anything else, and singing a doggerel form of words. The form recited on this last St. Clement's-day, at a country village in Staffordshire, was as follows:—

Clemen, Clemen, time of year,
Good red apples and a pint of beer;
Some of your mutton, and some of your veal—
If it be good, pray give us a deal:
If it be not, pray give us some salt.
Butler, butler, fill your bowl!
If you fill it of the best,
The Lord'll send your soul to rest.
If you fill it of the small,
Down comes butler, bowl, and all.
The bowl is made of a good ash-tree—
Pray, good Missis, think of me.
One for Peter, two for Paul,
Three for Him who made us all.
Apple or pear, plum or cherry—
Anything to make us merry.
Off with your kettle, and on with your pan;
A good red apple, and I'll begone.

And the following version, which is a preferable one, inasmuch as it suppresses the sacred names, was recited on this last St. Clement's-day in a Worcestershire village:—

Catten and Clemen comes year by year;
Some of your apples, and some of your beer.
Trow! trow!
Gentleman Butler, fill your bowl!
If you fill it of the best,
You shall have a good night's rest;
If you fill it of the small,
You shall have no rest at all.
Apple, pear, plum, or cherry;
Anything to make us merry.
One for Peter, two for Paul,
Three for the merry men under the wall.
Master and missis sit by the fire,
While we poor children trudge through the mire.
Our shoes are very dirty, our pockets are very thin;
Please, master and missis, to pop a penny in!
Up the long ladder, and down the short pan—
Give me a red apple, and I'll begone.

A somewhat different version is given in *Notes and Queries* (1st series, vol. viii., p. 618), which has these variations:—

Clemany, Clemany, Clemany mine!
A good red apple and a pint of wine.
A bouncing buck and a velvet chair—
Clement comes but once a year.
Off with the pot, and on with the pan—
A good red apple, and I'll begone.

Mr. Noake, in his valuable *Notes and Queries for Worcestershire*, gives two other versions, one of which thus concludes:—

Peter was a good old man;
For his sake give us some;
Some of the best, and none of the worst,
And God will send your souls to roost.
Up with the ladder, and down with the can.
Give me red apples, and I'll begone.

The original doggerel has been variously distorted, according to the misapprehensions of the rustic carollers; for example, one Worcestershire version has "St. Clement! St. Clement! a cat by the ear!" but the two last lines of the version just quoted appear to be the original. "The ladder," says Mr. Noake, "alluding to the stone of apples generally kept in a loft; and the can, doubtless, to the one going down into the cellar for the beer."

Mr. Noake also tells us that on St. Catharine's-day it was formerly the custom of the Dean and Chapter of Worcester, that day being the last of their audit, to distribute among the scholars of the College precincts a rich compound of wine, spices, and called "Catharine-bowl;" and that a month's edition of this custom is still

patroness of spinsters; and we are told by a writer of a hundred and twenty years ago "her holiday is observed, not only in Popish countries, but even in many places in this nation, young women meeting on the 25th of November, and making merry together, which they call *Catharining*." Formerly, in Ireland, women and girls used to keep this day as a fast. "The reason assigned for this custom was, that the girls might get good husbands, and the women better ones, by the death or desertion of their living spouses, or at least by an improvement in their manners."

Our illustration is from a Sketch by Cathbert Bede, taken on St. Clement's-day last. The farmhouse to which the children have come "Clemening" is the Mere, in the parish of Enville, a remarkably fine and well-preserved specimen of Elizabethan architecture. It is built of red brick, with stone dressings, and is on the estate of the Earl of Stamford and Warrington.

GIFT-BOOKS FOR THE SEASON.*

THE custom of Christmas gifts is a human custom, but of Divine origin. The greatest gift ever bestowed on man, revealing at the same time the love of his Creator and the immortality of his soul, is celebrated at this festival. Hear we not yet the angels singing to the shepherds "Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth and good will towards men"? Their song of joy must needs open the heart and dispose it to benevolence. But there is as much a national as a religious sentiment in the practice. It is accordant with the state of British feeling, ever as much inclined to the generous as to the valorous. Bravery and bounty, indeed, ever go hand in hand. Both think well of humanity, and hope the best; while the timid dread their fellows too much to trust even to their gratitude. The English heart looks not for thankfulness as the results of its bounty at this hallowed season, but seeks only to extend a sense of fellow-feeling, and, in the richest boon it can bestow, professes only to give what it has received. It would impart the blessing of love that has descended from heaven to make a heaven of earth; and, by the universal interchange of acknowledgments, bind all in a common sympathy.

Such being the spirit in which we welcome the peculiar attributes

- *1. The Home Affections Portrayed by the Poets. Selected and Edited by Charles Mackay.—Routledge.
2. Poetry and Pictures from Thomas Moore. With Illustrations on Wood.—Longman and Co.
3. The Poetical Works of Edgar Allan Poe. With Original Memoir. Illustrated by F. R. Pickersgill, R.A., John Tenniel, Birket Foster, Felix Darley, Jasper Cropsey, &c.—Low, Son, and Co.
4. Butterflies in their Floral Homes.—Jerrard.
5. The Fables of Aesop and Others translated into Human Nature. Designed and drawn on the Wood by Charles H. Bennett, author of "Shadows."—W. Kent and Co.
6. Winged Words on Chantrey's Woodcocks. Edited by James Patrick Muirhead, M.A. With Etchings.—Murray.
7. The Shipwreck: a Poem. By William Falconer. With Life by Robert Carruthers. Illustrated by Birket Foster.—Adam and C. Black.
8. Kavanagh: a Tale. By Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. Illustrated with Original Designs by Birket Foster.—Routledge and Co.
9. Our Old Story. By Eliza Follen, J. and J. Brown.
10. The Arabian Nights. Translated by John Payne.
11. The Arabian Nights. Translated by John Payne.
12. The Arabian Nights. Translated by John Payne.
13. The Arabian Nights. Translated by John Payne.
14. The Arabian Nights. Translated by John Payne.
15. The Arabian Nights. Translated by John Payne.
16. The Arabian Nights. Translated by John Payne.
17. Truth is Always Best. By Mary and Elizabeth Kirby.—Ditto.
18. The Diary of Three Children: or, Fifty-two Saturdays. Edited by Catherine D. Bell.—Edmonston and Douglas.
19. The Better Way; or, What Do I live For? By Miss Randall Ballantyne.—Nelson and Sons.
20. The Coral Island: a Tale of the Pacific Ocean. By Robert Michael Ballantyne. With Illustrations by the Author.—Ditto.
21. Ungava: a Tale of Esquimaux Land. By Robert Michael Ballantyne. With Illustrations by the Author.—Ditto.
22. The Microscope: its History, Construction, and Applications. By Jabez Hogg, B.R.C.S. Third edition.—Routledge and Co.
23. The Insect-Hunters; or, Entomology in Verse.—Newman.
24. Ghost Stories and Phantom Fancies. By Hain Friswell.—Bentley.
25. Four and Twenty Fairy Tales. Selected from those of Perrault and other popular Writers. Translated by J. K. Planché.—Routledge and Co.
26. Fred Markham in Russia; or, the Boy Traveller in the Land of the Czar. By W. H. G. Kingston, Esq.—Griffith and Farran.
27. Might not Right. By the Author of "Our Eastern Empire."—Ditto.
28. Historical Acting Charades. New edition.—Ditto.
29. Clara Hope; or, the Blade and the Ear. By Elizabeth Mather.—Ditto.
30. The Arabian Nights. Translated by John Payne.
31. Old Nurse's Book of Rhymes, Jingles, and Ditties. Edited and Illustrated by C. H. Bennett.—Ditto.
32. The Story of Jack and the Giant. With Thirty-five Drawings by Richard Doyle. Engraved by G. and H. Doyle. New edition.—Ditto.
33. The Adventure of the Red Rover. By J. K. Planché.—Ditto.
34. Jack Frost and the Snow. Illustrations by Harrison Weir.—Ditto.

Among them we find the name of Wrangham, Maltby, Selwyn, Tenterden, Williams, Alderson, Wilberforce, Scott, Wellesley, Jeffrey, and Cunningham. Sir Edwin Landseer also painted a memorial of the two martyred birds, in which they are, however, introduced rather as accessories than as the principal subject, the chief place being occupied by a portrait of Mustard, a terrier presented to Sir Francis Chantrey by Sir Walter Scott, which is depicted watching intently the movements of a cat under the table-cover, with her eye glaring on the woodcocks, which are laid side by side, with their heads hanging down, on a lower shelf of the table. On the table itself, near Mustard, lie Chantrey's modelling tools and snuff-box, and in the background stands his bust of Sir Walter. Now for the book:—

Behold, then, reader! yon fair couple lying,
Moulded in marble, glorious, and undying;
Their life's gay flights and death's sad flut rings over,
Peaceful they rest on leaves in this green cover,
Where many a bard, in sympathising verses,
Their loving life and wondrous death rehearses.

The following verses, by the Bishop of Oxford, are remarkably neat:—

Life in Death, a mystic lot,
Dealt thou to the winged band;
Death—from thine unerring shot,
Life—from thy undying hand.

Nor is the following by the editor a bad couplet:—

He hit the birds, and, with an aim as true,
And hand as skilful, hit their likenesses too.

These metrical contributions are in Greek, Latin, French, and English, and indicate all moods of the Muse's mind—grave, pensive, mirthful, allegoric, transcendental, and mystic. It is pleasing to compare the different fashions in which the same subject can present itself to different intellects. The engravings represent the monument erected at Holkham; the medal of Sir Francis by W. Wyon; a brace of pheasants, engraved from a drawing by Sir Francis; and three etchings by J. Redway. For the refined taste of classical readers a more suitable present can scarcely be tendered or accepted.

In association with the above we may very agreeably call attention to a reprint of *Falconer's Shipwreck*, illustrated by Birket Foster, and edited by Robert Carruthers, who introduces the poem with an elegant sketch of the author's life. The engravings are thirty in number. Every true lover of poetry will indorse Mr. Carruthers's opinion on the historian and poet of his country, whom he thus compares:—"Robertson, by his first work, the 'History of Scotland,' had reached the highest popularity; Falconer, by his one poem, had earned scarcely less distinction, overcoming by the force of native genius the difficulties incident to his nautical task, and uniting with his technical lore the inspiration and energy of a true poet." The biographical sketch concludes with a critical *resumé* of the poem, written with unmistakable discrimination and taste. Mr. Carruthers praises Falconer for his inimitable word-painting and occasional pathos; his fine touches of humanity, his unsophisticated nature and unadulterated truth; and, above all, for his exquisite simplicity. Nor does he omit to register the skill and accuracy with which the poet introduces into his narrative the technical terms used in navigation.

Pleasant among these gift-books is the sight of an edition (illustrated by Birket Foster) of a charming story by the American Lamartine—we mean *Kavanagh*, a tale by Longfellow. Why the writer should have called this work by the name of "Kavanagh," the parson of the parish, rather than by that of Churchill, the school-master of the same, who seems to us to be the real hero, remains to us an unsolvable mystery. He bears too hard, also, upon the poet-peddant, in attributing his delay in commencing his romance to a want of will; clearly proved he had more to do with his default than disposition, and the proved irresistible opposition of circumstance to the strongest determination. Poor Churchill's duty lay in another direction; his work-time was occupied; it was only his leisure that he could devote to literature, and even on that the charities of life had claims. He is also blamed for not having availed himself of the case of Alice Archer, of which he could know nothing, seeing that she kept her secret to herself, or only communicated it to Mr. Longfellow. For all this, the tale is an exquisite spiritual history. Longfellow is not apt any more than was our own Wordsworth at "the moving accident;" but he detects the inner life, and gives, as it were, the biography of the soul. And such a biography is the tale of "Kavanagh."

We are indebted to an old acquaintance, Thomas Miller, for an agreeable illustrated book entitled *Our Old Town*, and in which he has portrayed to the life his own poetic life-experiences—things and events "beheld with his own eyes, or heard with his own ears." Here, too, with the true bardic instinct, he finds compressed "all the elements which make up the great human world." Pictures of sailor-life in river-side streets—touching pictures of fear, and hope, and sorrow with which the wives of the absent think on their beloved husbands far out at sea; pictures of middle-class life in the old houses, where original editions of Chaucer may yet be found, and relics of a defunct pietism black with age and neglect; pictures, too, of village wooings, and cottage content, and farmhouse abundance, and market-day bustle; pictures of old warehouses, and waterside eccentrics, old inhabitants, and queer characters; such pictures, and more, with reflections on old superstitions and customs, and a store of both modern and ancient legends,—these are the materials which compose a volume which in every line breathes equally a poetic and moral spirit.

To teach and instruct should be as much the aim of works of fiction as to amuse. To blend both has been the aim of the fair compiler of a companion to the "Arabian Nights," under the title of *The Thousand and One Days*. The magic and wonderful of Eastern stories she approves, but she somewhat justly accuses them of licentiousness. In this assemblage of Oriental fables she has scarcely admitted one without a valuable moral lesson, and she appeals for proof to "The Powder of Longevity," "The Old Camel," and "The Dervise Abounadar." Her collection has been derived from the works of different Continental scholars. Some of the narratives bear a resemblance to old favourites—such as "Aladdin's Lamp" and Andersen's "Flying Trunk"—and, no doubt, these and others are all but variations of the same originals. They are not, however, the whit less genuine or entertaining on that account. The young, who have been already pleased with the "Nights," will assuredly be not less delighted with the "Days." The work, in fact, is excellent.

Another of the same tasteful publisher's books—a series of *Pilgrimages in Paris*, from the accomplished pen of Miss Pardoe—will be welcome for its very pleasant sketches of picturesque Paris, written in the right story-telling vein, full of lively and sparkling incident and French character.

A new story by the author of "Good Old Times" and "Mary Powell" must be always welcome. On this occasion she has taken for her theme and argument the brave Hofer, the chief of the Tyrolese in their heroic struggles against the French and Bavarians. Her tale is appropriately entitled *The Year Nine*, is artistically arranged, and is told with vigour and true patriotic feeling. There are, too, some graceful episodes—that of the little boy, Anderl Speckbacher, is in particular striking. The character of Hofer himself is distinctly chivalrous, and the whole of the dramatic persons are skilfully discriminated. There is some good description also, much exciting incident, and some pathetic dialogue. The authoress may be congratulated on the success with which she has treated her theme. Her style is worthy of her subject; and, as an historical romance, this brief epos, though in prose, has great and undeniable merits.

The child's book is at Christmas an indispensable gift-book, and we cannot be too grateful to the publishers who supply our modern nursery literature. Great is the difference between it and the old legendary lore of the days that are past. For the simple fairy tale of our infant days we have now the cunningly-contrived allegory, which, under a romantic veil, shall conceal much scientific information or moral wisdom. Lessons in natural history are given by Mrs. Myrtle, who has compiled an instructive work on *Cats and Dogs*, as "Nature's Warriors and God's Workers." Here are, moreover, *The Rambles of a Rat*, by A. L. O. E., who relates, in her own fanciful style, the natural history belonging to the race of *Mus*, their ancestry, their fortunes, and the uses to which man has made them subject. Sometimes she gets a quaint symbol out of their habits applicable to human wants and human interests. In another work

she attempts a higher flight; and under the title of *The Young Pilgrim* adapts the story of Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" to the infantile capacity. To use her own words, the authoress has translated the great mystic allegory into the language of simple childishness. In doing this it has been necessary to modify much, but great judgment is exhibited in the manner in which this needful duty has been performed. A third work by the same hand, entitled *The Giant-Killer*, sets forth how Fides conquered the giants Sloth, Selfishness, Pride, and other enemies to human virtue. All these works are well written, and adapted to their purpose.

Of the same kind of production we have a little book named *Truth is always Best; or, The Fatal Necklace*, by Mary and Elizabeth Kirby; in which the heroine, after furtively obtaining and using a necklace, falls into all manner of scrapes in regard to it, and seeks in vain to avoid the consequences, by disclaiming all knowledge of the article. The moral is brought home close to the perceptions of the child-reader, and the book cannot fail to be serviceable for the discipline of the infant mind.

With the like view translation has been resorted to; and in this way a curious work has been rendered into English from the German of A. Stein, under the title of *The Diary of Three Children; or, Fifty-two Saturdays*. The translator is a lady, whose name is concealed, but the work is ably edited by Catherine D. Bell, and is cleverly illustrated by six coloured prints.

The Better Way; or, What do I Live For? is a similar work, by Miss Randall Ballantyne, the moral of which is contained in its motto:—

Life is real! life is earnest!
And the grave is not its goal;
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,
Was not spoken of the soul.

There is some clever writing in this book, and some learned and literary allusions which evidently adapt it for the perusal of the more advanced student.

Two other works, with the same surname, are on our table: one entitled *The Coral Island*, and the other *Ungava; a Tale of the Esquimaux Land*, both by Robert Michael Ballantyne. The former relates to the adventures of a youth who had been made prisoner in the Pacific by pirates, and was thus brought into collision with wild Indians and cannibals. There are battle scenes and fierce situations; but at last the savages are Christianised by certain missionaries, and the captive Englishman and his companions return to their homes in safety. The latter volume concerns the fortunes of some fur-traders who visited the Island of Ungavi, and also those of a little girl who, straying amongst the icebergs, is preserved by some Esquimaux. Both works display great fertility of invention, power of description, and considerable skill in the delineation of character.

In these days, when even our holiday amusements take a scientific colour, it may not be out of place to point attention to the new edition of Mr. Jabez Hogg's popular work on the *Microscope*, with its 500 engravings. It speaks well of public taste to find that within three years 10,000 copies of this admirable text-book have been sold; yet this is not surprising if we recollect how multiplied have been the applications of the microscope and its objects of late years. Since the aquarium has now become the ornament of thousands of drawing-rooms, it will be acceptable to our readers to be made acquainted with the simplified method adopted by the author of the work before us in managing his aquarium. (See page 406 and 407. See page 583 for a note on *Stickleback*, and page 345 on *Actinia*. *Human Parasites*, page 441.) The vexed question of the vegetable nature of the *Diatomaceæ* is discussed at page 306, 307. These are but a few of the novelties in this new edition of this delightful book. Mr. Pearson's engravings, by the way, are ably executed.

Of the same interesting class as the above is *The Insect-Hunters*, teaching entomology in verse, and describing stages, metamorphoses, and tribes, systematically as in a treatise, and in rhyme more intelligible than the grandiloquent verse of Darwin himself.

A volume of *Ghost Stories and Phantom Fancies*, by Nicholas Gogol, a Russ of great genius, has yielded Mr. Friswell a task of "absorbing interest," of course only to be laughed at in the finale, and to serve as a relief to the Christmas jollity of the roisterers. This is a clever trifle in its way.

Shade of Benjamin Tabart (the Nestor of juvenile booksellers), what have we here? A collection of *Four-and-Twenty Fairy Tales*, which Mr. Planché has been at the pains to translate anew from the French of Perrault, whose bewigged portrait faces the titlepage. All our old favourites are here—"Cinderella," "The Babes in the Wood," "Riquet with the Tuft," &c., &c. Poor Benjamin's book, with its coloured woodcuts, was the playroom mess of our childhood; whereas the children of these days have Mr. Planché's improved translation in a goodly volume of some 600 pages, with new illustrations. However, the more the merrier.

From the shop of good Mr. Newbery (now Griffith and Farran),—where was published Oliver Goldsmith's "Goody Two Shoes,"—has just issued a bevy of little books, which, with a difference, wear the genius of the place. First is the tour of *Cousin Giles* and the *Two Mark-hams in Russia*, in which country boys may be expected to take as great an interest as their seniors. Mr. Kingston (well known by his "Peter the Whaler") describes the curiosities of Cronstadt, St. Petersburg, and Moscow, and the scenery, the people, and customs, in a very agreeable manner; and the engravings, drawn by Mr. R. T. Landells, possess the recommendation of the artist as well as the author having visited the country which he illustrates. The result is a novelty which will, doubtless, prove very attractive. Another contribution of history and travel is a volume of *Stories of the Discovery and Conquest of America*, with picturesque illustrations by John Gilbert. With the fortunes of Columbus, Cortez, and Pizarro for the staple of these stories, the writer has succeeded in producing a very interesting volume of romantic adventure. Next is a sort of dramatic version of history, in *Historical Acting Charades*—a rare book for a Christmas party, of practical value, for the present is a new edition: the characters appear to be judiciously chosen for instruction as well as entertainment. *Clara Hope; or, the Blade and the Ear*, by Elizabeth Milner, in some dozen sketches, abounding with excellent precepts, aims at aiding the great work of Christian education. Of the like healthy tone is *Maud Summers the Sightless*, consisting of pleasing sketches of children's life in the country, where childhood is seen to greatest advantage; the little heroine Maud displays exemplary patience under her affliction. The book is pleasingly illustrated by Absolon.

We now come to four little volumes for the "small fry": first, a nursery-book of *Rhymes, Jingles, and Ditties*, illustrated by the humorous pencil of C. H. Bennett, with ninety woodcuts—in short, old favourites with new faces. This reminds us that a new edition of *The Story of Jack and the Giants*, with Richard Doyle's admirable illustrations, engraved by the Dalziels, claims recognition. Next is *Biddy Dorking*, in whose adventures and experiences also figure Lilly Aylesbury, Dame Turkey, &c. The lifelike illustrations are by Mr. Harrison Weir; and Mrs. S. C. Hall has most agreeably written Biddy's story, to which, we understand, the authoress has been induced to append "The Story of the Yellow Frog," by Mr. Weir's characteristic portrait of the Yellow Frog singing. *Jack Frost and Betty Snow* is another collection of tales in which animals play parts: the portraits are from Mr. Weir's truthful pencil. Both these books, by the way, teach the high moral lesson of humanity to the lower animals.

THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN GREATNESS AND MEANNESS.—What I must do is all that concerns me, and not what the people think. This rule, equally arduous in actual and in intellectual life, may serve for the whole distinction between greatness and meanness. It is the harder because you will always find those who think they know what is your duty better than you know it. It is easy in the world to live after the world's opinion; it is easy in solitude to live after your own; but the great man is he who, in the midst of the crowd, keeps with perfect sweetness the independence of solitude.—Emerson.

MISS NIGHTINGALE.—An incorrect statement appeared some time ago to the effect that Miss Nightingale had arrived in Vienna, and that she intended to examine the arrangements of the Austrian military hospitals. Since her return from the East Miss Nightingale has not left this country, and we regret to hear that her health still continues much impaired by her exertions on behalf of our sick and wounded soldiers during the late war.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—NINEVEH SCULPTURES.

At this holiday season, when the number of visitors to our great national Museum is more than quadrupled, the accompanying illustrations and Details of the Sculptures of Senacherib will, doubtless, be acceptable. They are located in the Kouyunjik Gallery. The previous portion appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of Nov. 21.

No. 1, named "Senacherib," is a cast from a figure sculptured on the rocks of the Nahr-al-Kelb. The cast was made by Mr. Bonomi. This was the first Assyrian figure of life-size brought to Europe, and was presented to the Museum by his Grace the Duke of Northumberland.

No. 2 is a fragment representing a double-banked Assyrian war-galley conveying soldiers, whose shields are hung round the bows of the vessel.

No. 3 is the face from a round full-length portrait of one of the beardless attendants of Senacherib—very probably Rabshakah, the chief cupbearer of that Monarch whom he sent to Hezekiah (see Fig. 5).

We now arrive at a series of bassi-rilievi, numbered consecutively from 3 to 8, representing the conquest of a flat marshy country, intersected by streams, on the borders of which grows, in great luxuriance, a plant that bears not the least resemblance to the papyrus, whence we apprehend that the country intended to be represented is not the Delta of the Nile, but that of the two great rivers, the Euphrates and the Tigris, close to the entrance of those streams into the Persian Gulf.

Nos. 31 to 40 are sculptures on the walls of an inclined way which led from the river to the Palace of Senacherib. Here we have, on one wall, as if leaving the palace, some grooms of the Royal stable leading the King's horses down to the river to drink; and on a projecting piece of this wall is the figure of the Sais-Bashee, or Master of the Horse, who probably stood in that very corner formed by the projection to observe the paces of each horse as it passed before him. The figures are nearly the size of life.

On the opposite wall of the passage (Nos. 41 to 43) are represented bearded men carrying various articles of food, as if ascending and incline into the palace. The food consists of baskets of flat cakes and fruit, such as grapes, pomegranates, and the kishta-apple (*Arma reticulata*), known as the custard-apple, all probably the produce of the country north of Nineveh, and brought down to the metropolis of Assyria by water. The baskets containing the fruit are placed on trays carried on the shoulders of two men. The two hinder servants carry locusts tied on sticks, as we see cherries at the corners of our streets (see Fig. 6). Finding this man among the bearded fruit and game in this passage leading up to the palace, we can have little doubt but that the locusts were intended for the King's table; and thus an indirect testimony is provided by this sculpture of the fact that then, as now, these insects are eaten by the natives of the countries where they abound. Locusts, although "flying, creeping things," were not prohibited by the law of Moses (Leviticus xi. 22).

Many other slabs of this passage are figured in Dr. Layard's large work, in which a number of men are seen carrying jars filled with water, it being the universal custom in the East to insert a branch of some flowering shrub in the mouth of a water-jar, to keep it cool and prevent flies from entering. In these slabs the kishta-apple is more clearly defined, and also a fruit resembling the pine-apple, only two examples of which are shown, triumphantly held up by two men as rare and excellent productions of the King's gardens.

The next is the fragment of a slab (No. 56) highly suggestive of the marshy flat country south of Nineveh. On the upper half of the stone is delineated the banks of a sluggish stream, covered with the plants already so frequently described, the abode of the wild boar and the stag, of which latter animal there are three separate figures, besides a sow with a litter of nine pigs (see Fig. 7). Mr. W. F. Ainsworth—in his admirable work entitled "Researches in Assyria, Babylonia, and Chaldea"—would seem to be describing the ancient sculpture, so unchanged are the characteristics of the district. He tells us that on arriving "at the Wadi l'Kasab (Reed Valley), the banks of a sluggish stream covered with plants," he had not proceeded far before he aroused a large old sow, which, instead of running away, made directly at him in defence of her litter. His horse taking fright, he was obliged to dismount and leave it in charge of his friends, while he himself ran into the jungle; but just as he reached the edge of the stream the last of the young pigs had taken to the water. As the stream was shallow, Ainsworth followed and caught his prize, which furnished the party with an excellent repast. In the lower half of the slab we have the King in his chariot superintending the works, and drawn by two of his beardless attendants, followed by his umbrella and fan bearers, whose superior rank is intimated by their greater size. The car is surrounded by sceptre-bearers, six of whom walk before. The pole of the vehicle terminates in the head of a horse, and flowers, artificial or real, are pendent from the margin of the umbrella. In the four lines of cuneiform in front of the figure of the King is said to occur the name of that Assyrian monarch who was slain by his sons Adrammelech and Sharezer (2 Kings xix. 37, and Isaiah xxxvii. 38).

Nos. 57, 58, 59. "Siege of a City on a River, and Reception by Senacherib of Prisoners and Spoil."—This subject is engraved on three consecutive slabs. The centre is occupied by a wide stream, abounding with a variety of fish, among which the eel and the fresh-water crab are

(Continued on page 656.)

"THE FAMILY OF DARIUS BEFORE ALEXANDER."

PAINTED BY PAUL VERONESE.—FROM THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

PUBLIC opinion has now had the opportunity to inform itself upon the propriety of the great picture-purchase of the year. The noble Paul Veronese, which we have engraved, has been exhibited some three or four weeks at the National Gallery. If Englishmen generally were as jealous of the artistic estimation of their country, and as ready to make any sacrifice to uphold it, as they are for due appreciation in other respects, very few, we think, of the crowds who have visited this truly fine work would grudge the sum paid for it, large as it was, or, indeed, consider it other than insignificant when compared with the collective expenditure of this great empire, the importance of the object to be secured, and the rarity of such an opportunity. And of those who have once seen the picture still fewer, we should hope, would again willingly listen to the petty fallacious objections, the higgling meanness, and the ungenerous personalities which disgraced the debate upon the vote for the expenses of the National Gallery. Having mentioned the debate, we may remind our readers that the statement made by the pugnacious Mr. Morris Moore, and read in the House, of the amusing distribution of part of the money paid upon the purchase among the domestics of Count Pisani, and which statement either affirmed, or left it to be inferred, that the distribution was made by the agent of the Government, turned out afterwards to be entirely without foundation. It appears that several years ago this picture attracted the attention of Government, and Lord Aberdeen authorised our Consul to endeavour to effect the purchase of it. From time to time offers were made and rejected, and at last £12,000 was demanded by Count Pisani, the proprietor, to which was annexed this condition—that, as his domestics had for a number of years obtained a large income by the fees received for showing the picture, an additional sum should be given to compensate them for the loss they would sustain by the stoppage of the fees. In these circumstances the total sum stipulated and paid was £13,650, but the Government had nothing to do with the distribution. The picture we have thus acquired has long enjoyed European reputation. We are not surprised, therefore, that there is less of contradiction in the opinions of so-called connoisseurs than were pronounced respecting the Paul Veronese purchased last year. Even the much-abused "Adoration of the Magi" appears, however, to have risen in general estimation; and we find Dr. Waagen, in the additional volume just published of his work on our Art-Treasures, lauding it in the highest terms.

"The Family of Darius before Alexander" after the battle of Issus, B.C. 333, is thus officially described:—"The Royal captives, having mistaken Hephestion for Alexander, the Queen Mother, Sisygambis, implores pardon of the conqueror, who, pointing to his friend, tells her she has not erred, for Hephestion is another Alexander. The elder of the two daughters, Statira, kneeling immediately behind her mother, became the wife of Alexander; she was, however, subsequently put to death by Perdiccas, through



THE FAMILY OF DARIUS BEFORE ALEXANDER.—IN THE NATIONAL GALLERY.—PAINTED BY PAUL VERONESE.

the instigation of Roxana, the second Persian wife of Alexander. The captive family, presented to the King by one of the Ministers of Darius, is kneeling in the centre of the picture, Alexander and his Generals, Hephæstion and Parmenio, being on the spectator's right. In the background is a marble arcade, from the top of which many spectators are looking down. The principal figures are portraits of the Pisani family. On canvas, 7 feet 8½ in. high by 15 feet 6½ in. wide." The picture was purchased, as we have incidentally mentioned, from Count Pisani, the present representative of one of the most illustrious families of the Venetian Republic, to which belonged the great naval commander, Vittorio Pisani. The picture adorned the Arabesque-Gothic Palazzo Pisani a S. Polo, on the Grand Canal; and respecting its pedigree Sir Charles Eastlake says in the report:—"According to family traditions, and the united testimony of the historians of Art, it was painted by Paul Veronese for the ancestor of the present Count Pisani. According to Boschini vast sums were offered for it two centuries since, and, within the last thirty years, Sovereigns, public bodies, and opulent individuals have in

vain endeavoured to secure it. D'Argenville states, on the authority of the Procuratore Pisani of his time (the first half of the last century), that Paul Veronese, having been detained by some accident at the villa of the Pisani (at Este), painted and deposited there this work, informing the family after his departure 'that he had left wherewithal to pay for the cost of his visit.' If this story be true, the great painter has now munificently redeemed his word."

Paulo Cagliari, commonly called, from Verona, the place of his birth, Paulo Veronese, may be said, for convenience of recollection, although he only survived the patriarchal Titian twelve years, to have flourished with Tintoretto in the second half of the sixteenth century, as the other great masters of the Venetian school, Giorgione and Titian, did in the first half. Sir Joshua Reynolds in his day very severely criticised the whole school, and yet in practice imitated Venetian colour; and now it is the fashion to depreciate it in favour of the pre-Raphaelite painters, and yet we buy the productions of the Venetian masters. Certainly, with all its sensuous charms

of colour and technical excellence, it must rank below the Roman school in expression and grandeur of conception. Choice pictures of the latter school are, however, not to be purchased; and it is far better to have a first-rate work in a lower class of art than a mediocre performance, although in subject belonging to the highest. Veronese, in particular, has been charged with being a decorative painter; but this does not prevent his works being highly instructive to the artist. He is one of the greatest masters of composition, not merely of lines, but of masses of light and shade; his colouring is extremely rich and brilliant, with, generally, a peculiarly sweet, silvery tone, in contradistinction to the golden glow of Titian; and his execution is surprisingly light and free. He loved to paint scenes of sumptuous and magnificent parade and worldly splendour such as that before us, or festive subjects, full of figures, for the refectories of rich convents, suggested, of course, from some particular passages of Scripture, but treated with the greatest freedom—a familiar example of which is the famous "Marriage at Cana" now in the Louvre. In these works we often have the most beautiful

display of grand architecture, giving, by its variety of lines, great movement to the figures, and richness to the groupings and general composition. The force and animated contrast thus obtained is very evident in the newly-acquired picture, as will be felt in our Engraving. The aerial perspective of the marble arcade is also finely rendered, although the figures on the top are decidedly too large. Paulo's brother, Benedetto Cagliari, is said, however, to have executed these magnificent architectural backgrounds. The colouring of the new picture, though not deep in general tone, is as rich as the figures are picturesque; and its excellent preservation (proved by the pure tender grey of the sky, painted probably in tempera) affords us a capital criterion of the original colouring of the master. Veronese delighted in painting rich stuffs, and discriminating textures; but, whatever was the date of his subject, his costumes are always those of the artist's own time. This quaint anachronism will be observed in the gorgeous costumes of this picture, but we soon forget this in admiration of the painter's genius. Veronese does not generally equal Titian



"THE IDLE SERVANT."—IN THE NATIONAL GALLERY—PAINTED BY NICOLAS MAES.

in the perfection of his flesh tones, yet the colouring of the flesh is here admirable. The expression of the figures, also, is more than usually good. Goethe has remarked of this picture, "The gradation from the mother to the wife, down to the daughter, is full of truth, and most happy. The youngest Princess kneeling quite at the end is a charming little child, and has a most ingenuous, wilful, sturdy little face; her position does not seem to please her at all."

"THE IDLE SERVANT."

IN THE NATIONAL GALLERY.—PAINTED BY NICOLAS MAES.

THE National Gallery is deficient in specimens of several of the principal Dutch masters; but this is not the case with the works of Nicolas Maes, one of the most original and satisfactory painters of Holland. Maes was a pupil of Rembrandt, and, on a smaller scale, and dealing with more familiar incidents, has much of the depth, ful-

ness, and strength of his master, modified by, and related to, the smooth completion and patient finish of Metz and that class. There are also strong indications of De Hooze and Maes having admired each other.

Nothing can be more truthful and felicitous in the way of a pleasant domestic episode than the scene the artist has delineated. The hour is that which has followed a copious family repast in Dutch citizen life. In an inner room at the end of a passage conversation and stimulants have succeeded to mastication. But the kitchen wench resigns herself to slumber; grimalkin makes an attack on the cold fowl; and the upper servant, entering the apartment, contemplates the scene with a richness of humorous expression that is sardonic yet still essentially feminine. We could almost wager that if Hogarth had seen this on the walls of the *lust-huis* of some wealthy Mynheer we should have had a series of "The Industrious and the Idle Kitchen Wench," with the moral appropriately concluding in action; the former becoming the mistress of the house in old Dutch fashion, and the latter finishing badly.

The execution of the picture is admirable; the colour rich, deep, and juicy; the glazing done with the most skilled craft; and the detail not thrown away, but merged in the general effect. The glazing, perhaps, is rather in excess; for, from the want of a few more sharp and sparkling touches, the linen aprons look somewhat too like white satin. A factitious chromatic atmosphere, however convenient to a certain extent for the purposes of equalisation, ought never to go so far as to confound the individuality of tissues. With this slight deduction, the general harmony of the tones of the picture instantaneously strikes the spectator; the reflexes of the distance are also good, but not quite equal to De Hooze in such points.

The great number of excellent portraits by Maes, and the small number of his genre pieces, enhance the value of the latter. This picture was imported from Holland by John Smith, the eminent picture-dealer, and was purchased by Mr. Richard Simmons, who bequeathed it to the nation. Smith, *in illo tempore*, valued it at 300 guineas, not half its present value if brought to the hammer.

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YAPPS' LADIES' BALMORAL BOOTS,
in five different thicknesses, suitable for all seasons.—200,
Sloane-street, Knightsbridge, London.

THOMAS D. MARSHALL'S ELASTIC
BOOTS.—Ladies' First-class Elastic Boots at moderate prices.
All kinds kept ready for wear. Elastic Horse-Boots, 6s. 6d. and
8s. 6d.; Elastic Evening Boots, 8s. 6d.; rich White and Black Satin
Elastic Boots, 14s. 6d.; Elastic double-soled Boots, 13s. 6d.; Elastic
Paris Kid Boots, with military heels, 14s. 6d.; ditto, with double
soles, 16s. 6d.; and with treble soles, 17s. 6d.—Thomas D. Marshall,
192, Oxford-street.

SPORTING SHIRTS.—100 Patterns to
select from, post-free for two stamps, together with a book of 80
illustrations. Every gentleman ordering Shirts should not fail to send
for the above useful book and patterns.—RODGERS and BOURNE,
Improved Corazza Shirtmakers and Outfitters, 59, Saint Martin's-
lane, Charing-cross, W.C. Established 60 years.

SHIRTS.—RODGERS'S IMPROVED
CORAZZA SHIRTS, 3s. 6d. and 4s. the half dozen. The best
finishing shirts extant. Boots, 7s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. Illustrations and directions
for measurement post-free.—RODGERS and BOURNE, Shirtmakers, 59,
Saint Martin's-lane, Charing-cross, W.C. Established 60 years.

THE NEW REFORM BILL.
Edward Doudney and Sons' New Double-fronted Raglan
Capes, 42s.; York Tweed Cloaks, 21s.; Water (not Air)-proof for
Ladies and Gentlemen. Footman's suits, 3 guineas.—EDWARD
DOUDNEY and SONS, Tailors to the Royal Family, 17, Old Bond-
street; 25, Burlington Arcade; 49, Lombard-street. Established 1784.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?—This query can
be answered by SAMUEL BROTHERS, 29, Ludgate-hill,
the inventor of the SYDENHAM TROUSERS, 17s. 6d.; for, in the
fashionable world, there is associated with the Sydenham Trousers a
perfect idea synonymous with a graceful, easy, and well-fitting
garment.

THE SYDENHAM TOP-COAT is made
from the best material, by workmen of taste, at Two Guineas.
The appreciation of the fashionable world of genuine and perfect
articles of dress renders the success of the SYDENHAM TOP-COAT
a certainty.—SAMUEL BROTHERS, 29, Ludgate-hill.

WANTED LEFT-OFF CLOTHES for
EXPORTATION.—Mr. and Mrs. HUTCHINSON, 17, Dean-
street, High Holborn, W.C., continue giving the highest price for
Ladies' Gentlemen's, and Children's Clothes, Regiments, Under-
clothing, Boots, Breeches, Jewellery, and all miscellaneous properties.
Ladies or Gentlemen punctually waited on at their residences any
time or distance, on addressing as above. Parcels sent from the
country, the utmost value immediately remitted by Post-office order.

WANTED LEFT-OFF CLOTHES for
AUSTRALIA, in good or inferior condition. Mr. and Mrs.
JOHN ISAACS, 319 and 320, STIAHD (opposite Somerset-house),
High Holborn, W.C., continue giving the highest price for Ladies',
Gentlemen's, and Children's Clothes, Regiments, Boots, Breeches,
Jewellery, and all Miscellaneous Property. Letters for any day or
distance punctually attended to. Parcels sent from the Country,
either large or small, the utmost value returned by Post-office order
the same day. Reference, London and Westminster Bank. Est. 49 yrs.

WANTED LEFT-OFF CLOTHES, Uni-
forms, Miscellaneous Property, &c. The highest price given.
Ladies or Gentlemen waited on by addressing to Mr. and Mrs. G.
HYAM, 16, Tyler-street, Regent-street, W.; or parcels sent from the
utmost value in cash immediately remitted.—Established 32 years.

WANTED LEFT-OFF CLOTHES.—Mr.
and Mrs. HART, 31, Newcastle-street, Strand, W.C., are
giving the highest price for every kind of Ladies' and Gentlemen's
WEARING APPAREL, satin and velvet dresses, regiments, uni-
forms, India shawls, point lace, trinkets, books, furniture, miscel-
laneous property, &c. Ladies or Gentlemen waited on, any time or
distance. Address as above. Parcels from the country, the utmost
value remitted in cash. Established 1801.

HAIR JEWELLERY.—Artist in Hair.—
DEWDNEY begs to inform Ladies or Gentlemen resident in
town or any part of the kingdom that he beautifully makes, and
elegantly mounts, in gold, HAIR BRACELETS, Chains, Brooches,
Rings, Pins, Studs, &c.; and forwards the same, carefully packed
in boxes, at about one-half the usual charge. A beautiful collection
of specimens, handsomely mounted, kept for inspection. An illus-
trated book sent free.—Dewdney, 172, Fenchurch-street.

BEFORE YOU HAVE YOUR LIKENESS
TAKEN send for DEWDNEY'S PATTERNS OF BROOCHES,
Lockets, Bracelets, &c., which are sent free on receipt of two postage
stamps. Registered Revolving Brooches! A Gold Gold, to show either
Likeness or Hair at pleasure of wearer, from 45s. each. A Gold
Plated Brooch or Locket sent free to any part of the kingdom for
10s. 6d.—Dewdney, Manufacturing Goldsmith and Jeweller, 172, Fen-
church-street, City, London.

A GUINEA GOLD WEDDING-RING and
Hall-marked KEEPER sent in a morocco box to any part of
the kingdom on receipt of 21s. or a Post-office order.—GEORGE
DEWDNEY, Goldsmith and Jeweller, 172, Fenchurch-street, London.

CHARLES PACKER (late Antoni Forrer),
Artist in Hair and Jewellery, by Appointment,
Hair Jewellery Department, 136, Regent-street.
Foreign and Fancy ditto, 79, Regent-street.
Jet and Mourning ditto, 76, Regent-street.

ANTONI FORRER,
Artist in Hair and Jewellery, by Appointment,
to the Queen,
32, Baker-street, Portman-square
(nearly opposite the Bazaar).
Antoni Forrer has no connection whatever with his late Establish-
ment in Regent-street.

JAMES LEWIS'S Dépôt for the SALE of
First-class PERFUMERY, at most moderate prices, is now
open at 66, Oxford-street, seven doors from the Princess's Theatre.

RHEUMATISM and RHEUMATIC PAINS.
JAMES LEWIS'S patent IODINE SOAP possesses peculiar
specific properties, and is recommended by the Faculty.
JAMES LEWIS, 66, Oxford-street, W.

SERINGA BOUQUET is the Perfume of the
Season, price 2s. 6d., at JAMES LEWIS'S new Perfumery
Warehouse, 66, Oxford-street, seven doors from the Princess's Theatre.

CAUTION—DELICROIX'S celebrated
ESPRIT DE LAVANDE aux Millefleurs.—This delicious
perfume is now only manufactured by DELICROIX (formerly of 158,
New Bond-street), at 39, Great Castle-street, Regent-street, London.

WOOD VIOLET SCENT.—H. BREIDEN-
BACH recommends his Wood Violet as the finest natural
Perfume distilled. A single 2s. 6d. Bottle will verify the fact. Ask
for H. Breidenbach's Wood Violet.—157A, New Bond-street, W.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.—A clear Com-
plexion is produced by GOWLAND'S LOTION.—Ladies will
immediately, on the application of this celebrated preparation (estab-
lished 101 years), experience its extraordinary genial qualities. It
produces and sustains great purity and delicacy of complexion, re-
moves freckles, tan, redness, and pimples, and promotes healthy
action, so that the complexion naturally enters the aid of the benevolent
Perfumer. Half pint, 2s. 9d.; quart, 5s. 6d.

THE BEST HAIR PREPARATIONS.—
1, Little Queen-street, High Holborn.—ALEX. ROSS'S HAIR
DYE, the best in the world; Alex. Ross's Hair Destroyer or Depila-
tory does not affect the skin; Alex. Ross's Cantharides Oil, a sure
restorer of the hair; Alex. Ross's Curling Fluid saves the trouble of
using irons or papers. The above articles are 3s. 6d. per bottle, and
are sent free in both or a set of teeth replaced, springs or wires, or a
painful operation, has been considered necessary. These inconveniences
have been obviated by Mr. ROGERS'S Improved Method of Fixing
Artificial Teeth. The teeth thus secured resemble the natural teeth so
completely that even the practical eye of a dentist cannot detect the
imitation. A long period of success has proved the infallibility of Mr.
Rogers's method. Charges moderate.

KISS-ME-QUICK.—PIESSE and LUBIN'S
new Perfume for the Festive Season, distilled from fragrant
Tulips, 2s. 6d. and 3s. 6d. per bottle. Elegant Cut Bottles for pre-
sents, 2s. 11d. (Entered at Stationers' Hall.) Laboratory of Flowers, 2,
New Bond-street.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.
The exuberance of the feelings amid scenes of gaiety induces
the fair and youthful to alight to advantage under the gaze of many
friends, and therefore to devote increased attention to the duties of the
Toilet. It is at this festive season that
ROWLANDS' AUXILIARIES OF HEALTH and BEAUTY
are more than usually essential; viz.,
ROWLANDS' MACASSAR OIL,
for imparting a transcendent lustre to the Hair, and sustaining it in
decorative charm.
ROWLANDS' KALYDOR
imparts a radiant bloom to the Cheek, and a delicacy and softness to
the Hands, Arms, and Neck; and
ROWLANDS' ODONTO,
or PEARL DENTIFRICE,
bestows on the Teeth a Pearl-like whiteness and renders the Breath
sweet and pure.
The Patronage of Royalty throughout Europe, their general use by
Rank and Fashion, and the universally-known efficacy of these
articles, give them a celebrity unparalleled, and render them pecu-
liarly
ELEGANT and SEASONABLE PRESENTS.
Sold by A. ROWLAND and SONS, 21, Hatton-garden, London,
And by Chemists and Perfumers.
BEWARE OF SPURIOUS IMITATIONS!!!

WHITE and SOUND TEETH.—JEWS-
BURY and BROWN'S ORIENTAL TOOTH PASTE, estab-
lished by thirty years' experience as the most agreeable, innocent, and
efficacious preparation for cleaning, beautifying, and preserving the
Teeth. Sold throughout the Kingdom in pots at 1s. 6d.
Bury and Brown, 113, Market-street, Manchester.—Caution: The title being adopted,
and the external appearance closely imitated, it is necessary carefully
to observe that the proper address is on the pots and the signature of
the proprietors on the wrapper. Wholesale Agents—Barclays, Far-
rington-street; Edwards, St. Paul's; Pater and Co., Lombard-street,
London; Raines and Co., Liverpool; and Horsey and Sons, New York.

FOR STOPPING DECAYED TEETH.—
Patronised by her Majesty and H.R.H. the Prince Consort.—
Mr. HOWARD'S PATENT WHITE SUCCEANUM, for filling
decayed Teeth, however large the cavity. It is used in a soft state
without any pressure or pain, and in a short time becomes as hard as
the enamel, lasting for many years, rendering extraction unnecessary
and arresting all further decay. Sold by all Medicine Vendors.—
Price 2s. 6d.

TEETH.—Much has been said and written
about new inventions in Artificial Teeth, but hitherto no method
for fixing them has been found to answer the purpose of preserving
and consolidating the loose teeth and roots remaining. Up to this time,
to have had a tooth or a set of teeth replaced, springs or wires, or a
painful operation, has been considered necessary. These inconveniences
have been obviated by Mr. ROGERS'S Improved Method of Fixing
Artificial Teeth. The teeth thus secured resemble the natural teeth so
completely that even the practical eye of a dentist cannot detect the
imitation. A long period of success has proved the infallibility of Mr.
Rogers's method. Charges moderate.

DEAFNESS, Noises in the Head. Turkish
Treatment by a retired Surgeon from the Crimea (who was
quite cured), published, a Book, Self-Cure, free by post for six
stamps.—Surgeon COLSTON, M.R.C.S., 6, Leicester-place, Leicester-
square, London. At home from eleven to four, to receive visits from
patients.

DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS
give instant relief and a rapid cure of Asthma, Consumption,
Coughs, and all disorders of the Breath and Lungs. To singers
and public speakers they are invaluable for clearing and strengthening the
voice. They have a most pleasant taste. Price 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., and
11s. per box. Sold by all Chemists.

PULVERMACH'S PATENT MEDICAL
ELECTRIC CHAINS, cure in a few days, sometimes in-
stantaneously, without the least pain or inconvenience, or any other
medicine, the most severe Chronic and acute affections, Rheumatism,
Gout, Neuralgia, Head and Toothache, Lumbago, Sciatica, Liver and
Bilious Complaints, Constipation, Deafness, Epilepsy, Spasms, Paraly-
sis, and many heretofore incurable maladies. For their infallible
powers of giving relief to those complaints they have received a
reward from the Great Exhibition, 1855. An adoption by the Aca-
demy de Medicine, Paris. Also the highest eulogium from the
medical books and journals of every country, and thousands of unsolli-
cited testimonials of cures from all classes of society. Supported by the
celebrated Drs. Golding Bird, Pereira, Lardner, Duchenne, Pouillet,
Oppolzer, and many others equally distinguished. May be tested
before purchasing. Chains, 5s. and 10s. 6d. The most useful are the
10s. 6d. and 25s. free by post. London: J. L. PULVERMACH
and CO., 73, Oxford-street, adjoining the Princess's Theatre.

INFANTS' NEW FEEDING-BOTTLES.—
From the "Lancet."—"We have seldom seen anything so
beautiful as the Feeding-Bottles introduced by Mr. ELAM, 106,
Oxford-street. Whether for weaning, rearing by hand, or occasional
feeding, they are quite unrivalled." 7s. 6d. each.

APPROVED OF by every Medical Man who
has seen it.—THE BRITISH FEEDING-BOTTLE (registered)
is the only bottle in which the supply of food can be regulated while
the infant is being fed. Price 7s. 6d.; or to any railway station,
8s. 6d., of WILLIAM T. COOPER, Pharmaceutical Chemist, 23,
Oxford-street.

MISS DOLBY begs to announce that she will
Return to London immediately after Christmas. All com-
munications to be addressed to her residence, No. 2, Hinde-street,
Manchester-square.

**THE LINENDRAPERS', SILKMERCEERS',
LACEMEN'S, HABERDASHERS', and HOSIERS' INSTI-
TUTION.**—THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL BALL will be held at
WILLIS'S ROOMS, King-street, St. James', on THURSDAY, the 7th
JANUARY, 1858.

STEWARDS.
Mr. F. G. Beaton.
Mr. Richard Badham.
Mr. Henry Clayton.
Mr. Thomas Drake.
Mr. D. Edmond.
Mr. Geo. H. Edgar.
Mr. T. Grills.
Mr. Fred. K. Glover.
Mr. W. H. Johns.
Mr. Henry Lawes.
Mr. E. Lethem.
Mr. S. Morley.
Mr. W. Newton.
Mr. Thos. Oswin.
Mr. James Park.
Mr. S. Russell.
Mr. W. Stone.
Mr. J. C. Tompsett.
Mr. S. Washburne.

Single ticket, to admit a gentleman, 14s.; double ticket, to admit
a gentleman and lady, or two ladies, 18s.; and treble ticket, to admit
a gentleman and two ladies, or three ladies, 22s., to include refresh-
ments, may be had of the above gentlemen. Adams' Band will be in
attendance. Mr. Frampton, M.C. And dancing will commence at
Nine o'clock precisely.
24, Surrey-street, Strand.
GEORGE BRACE, Secs.
THOMAS SELBY, Secs.

**CUMBERLAND BENEVOLENT INSTI-
TUTION.—THE BALL.**
LONDON TAVERN, FRIDAY, 15th JANUARY.
PATRON.—The Right Hon. the Earl of Lonsdale.
LADIES PATRONESSES.

Duchess of Sutherland.
Lady Ann Beckett.
Lady Frederick Bentinck.
Lady Musgrave.
Lady Muncaster.
Lady Dalrymple.
Lady Nias.
Baroness de Sternberg.
Mrs. F. B. Atkinson.
Mrs. Dykes.
Mrs. Frecheville Dykes.
Mrs. W. N. Hodgson.
Mrs. P. H. Howard.
Mrs. Iron.
Mrs. Johnson.
Mrs. H. Lowther.
Miss Anne Lowther.
Mrs. Maclean.
Mrs. Marshall.
Mrs. Parkington Senhouse.
Mrs. Steel.

ROYAL ASYLUM of ST. ANN'S SOCIETY
By Voluntary Contributions affording Home, Clothing, and
Education of those ready in prosperity (Orphans or not)—
HALF-YEARLY ELECTION on 12th FEBRUARY NEXT. Sub-
scriptions gratefully received by
Office, 2, Walbrook. EDWD. FREDK. LEES, Secretary.

CAMBRIDGE ASYLUM for SOLDIERS'
WIDOWS, Kingston-on-Thames. By voluntary contribu-
tions. The only existing home for the Soldier's Widow.
J. RUSSELL CLIFFERTON, Acting Secretary.
Office, 19, Parliament-street.

THE Rev. C. H. SPURGEON'S Friends will
hold a BAZAAR, consisting of Useful and Fancy Articles
in the MUSIC HALL

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—NINEVEH SCULPTURES.



FIG. 6.—LOCUST-BEARER.

(Continued from page 651.)
again conspicuous. On both banks of this large river grow the date-palm in great luxuriance; and that the transactions recorded on these slabs took place in the autumn of the year the artist informs us by representing the trees in full bearing.

The subject engraved on these slabs is the siege, capture, and deportation of the inhabitants of a city situated on an island in the great river. The banks of the lesser stream which flows at the back of the city are overgrown by the cane-reed of the marshy districts of the Tigris. To the left of the spectator is an epitome of the besieging army. The foremost ranks of conical-shaped helmets protected by the great shield-bearers, which supply the place of the trenches and earthworks in a modern siege, have advanced within bowshot of the walls. Behind these are ranks of the crested-helmet spearmen; behind these are companies of archers; and, lastly, a detachment of cavalry. In advance of all are some crested-helmet warriors, who, under the shelter of their round shields, are setting fire to the gates of the lower city.

On the walls of the citadel are seen the inhabitants imploring for mercy; then follows the never-failing result of a conquest—namely, the deportation of the inhabitants—the men, the women, the children, the cattle, the goods driven off by gigantic warriors, all being embodied in the upper part of the combined slabs—"I came, I saw, I conquered;" with the Assyrian addition—"I carried off."

The next division of this subject occupies the lower part of the three slabs—viz., the King in his chariot witnessing the registration of the slain, the prisoners, and the spoil (see Fig. 8). Bows, spears, furniture, vases, and dead men's heads are heaped up under the shadow of the palm-trees in the afternoon or early morning of the day, as we gather from the pendent contrivance

attached to the Royal parasol to screen his Majesty from the oblique rays of the sun in this southern division of the empire. The face of the King, and of his charioteer and umbrella-bearer, have this time escaped the vengeance of the invaders of Nineveh. The chariot and horses, the grooms and the body guard, of the King in this slab are all uninjured; probably all those important functionaries that surround the Royal car are in some degree likenesses of the persons holding their respective offices at the time the slab was sculptured.

The heads of the slain are being heaped up by a crested-helmeted soldier, who seizes by the beard a manacled prisoner of rank. The other captives, chained two by two, and carrying sacks, are driven into the presence of the King by a gigantic trooper.

The last piece of sculpture in this gallery is the figure of a man



FIG. 5.—MASK OF RABSHAKAH, THE KING'S CUPBEARER.



FIG. 7.—SOW AND PIGS IN THE WADI L'KASAB (REED VALLEY), IN CHALDEA.

with a lion's head, in the attitude of striking with a dagger. The slab on which this Assyrian composite figure was sculptured was built into the wall of the palace near a doorway as representing one of those invisible imaginary beings whose office it was to guard the approaches to the royal chambers.

The foregoing descriptions and further examination of the Ninevite sculptures afford ample evidence that the ancient Assyrians had attained a high degree of excellence in the art of pictorial illustration, and of thus communicating historical facts to the various "nations and languages" over whom the great King held sway by a means which their complicated system of letters was ill calculated to perform. Indeed, no writing—not even the Chinese, which is said to be understood throughout the most distant provinces of the empire by thousands who are unacquainted with the spoken dialect of the capital—could be more explanatory than are these legible stone pages out of the history of Assyria. For example, no written statement could present to our minds so vivid a description of the result of a successful siege as does the picture we have selected from the stone tapestries of the Palace of Senacherib. In it we are distinctly informed that the captive chiefs were ignominiously dragged by a ferocious soldiery to be numbered with the heads of their slain countrymen, and recorded with the spoil of the city heaped up at the feet of the notaries. We can read at a glance the modes of making the inventories, the instruments of writing, the quality or rank of the notaries. We can tell the characteristic features of the country—the period of the year. If we examine further, we can tell the character and pursuits of the people, whether pastoral or warlike, and numerous other particulars, all which can be obtained by dwelling longer over the speaking document.



FIG. 8.—THE REGISTRATION OF THE PRISONER AND SPOIL.